

More than 100 fighters and transports leave Iraq and live to fight another day

Saddam sends his best planes to Iran shelter

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein has embarked on a plan to save his most advanced fighters from allied air attack by moving them "in squadrons" to a safe haven in Iran, defence sources say.

More than 100 combat aircraft and transport planes have flown over the border so far. The strategy, which appeared to be operating latterly "with a degree of collusion" by Iran, could be the first concrete sign that the Iraqi leader had now realised "the game is up", one senior British source said.

Although it is possible Iraqi air force chiefs may have taken the decision to evacuate the aircraft, intelligence services believe Saddam is behind the plan. "He wants to retain his best aircraft for when the conflict is over so he will still have some military assets to keep him in power," one source said.

Intense diplomatic activity was under way yesterday to discover whether Iran would stick to its stated position of neutrality. So far Tehran has said the Iraqi aircraft will be

Summit off

Washington - The United States and the Soviet Union last night announced postponement of their planned summit in Moscow from February 11 to 13 and cited the Gulf war and unresolved issues over a strategic weapons treaty as the reasons. It would be rescheduled for later in the first half of this year.

The announcement was made by James Baker, the Secretary of State, and the Soviet foreign minister, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, after talks with President Bush at the White House.

allies have achieved "air supremacy".

In a Pentagon briefing yesterday, Brigadier-General Pat Stevens said that in the previous 24 hours American navy aircraft had attacked several Iraqi naval vessels. Another Iraqi patrol boat had been left burning in Kuwait harbour. More than 2,000 sorties were flown, with the loss of one US Marine Corps Harrier, 26 Iraqi aircraft had been shot down, and another 23 were known to have been destroyed on the ground.

General Stevens said that the fire at Kuwait's Sea Island oil terminal had diminished in size since the American air strike at the mainland pumping stations. "It appears we have stopped the flow of oil," he said. The slick already released, which yesterday measured more than 33 miles long and ten miles wide, was drifting south at a rate of about 15 miles a day. Saudi officials said the slick could reach Jubail, site of the world's biggest desalination plant, in about two days.

Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, said Britain was putting together an emergency programme and would seek a similar commitment from the world's leading industrialised countries. Ninety tonnes of some of the world's best oil-slick fighting equipment was being airlifted last night from RAF bases and Stansted airport. In North London a team of scientists with Archaeus Technology was on standby to ship naturally occurring bacteria to Saudi beaches. The bacteria produce a natural detergent that allows oil to be removed without harming marine life.

Computer models of the waters of the Gulf at the Meteorological Office in Metcalf, Berkshire, and the Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory at Birkenhead, Continued on page 20, col 1

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Scud attacks start again after lull

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

IRAQ fired a Scud missile at the Saudi capital Riyadh last night but it was shot down 13 miles south of the city, a military source said. Israel was also under attack from Scud missiles and ordered residents to put on gas masks and to seek shelter in rooms sealed against chemical weapons. The assault is the seventh that Israel has faced.

The missile attacks followed the longest lull in such assaults since the Gulf war began 12 days ago. No missiles were fired on Sunday night against either Saudi Arabia or Israel. Until yesterday's attacks, 26 Scuds had been fired at Saudi Arabia and 25 at Israel, causing at least five deaths and hundreds of injuries. Most Scuds have been destroyed by United States' Patriot air defence missiles. News photog-

raphers on a hotel roof in Riyadh said last night that they saw two Patriot missiles soar into the night sky but did not see them hit a Scud.

Two photographers said they saw a Scud continue on south of the city. One said he saw an explosion. The Scud was the 13th fired at Riyadh in just over a week, according to an American military source.

On Thursday, a Scud warhead hit a building in central Riyadh killing one person and injuring 30 in the only fatal attack in Saudi Arabia so far. The S. military source said. It said a Patriot hit the Scud but did not destroy the warhead, which smashed into the building.

The first Scud attack on Riyadh, when a missile hit an insurance building, happened last Monday.

I'm sorry, I'll pronounce that missile again

By ALAN HAMILTON

MOMENTS before the BBC nine o'clock news bulletin began the other day, Martyn Lewis, the presenter, was still struggling to wrap his tongue around a hitherto unheard-of word. The allies had taken it, but what remained unconquered was its proper pronunciation. To an English speaker, the Arabic spelling of Qarun falls somewhat short of the definitive.

Quaroo? Like quarrel? Kangaroo without the kan? A perfect rhyme for Dangerous Dan Magraw? To the rescue, in the nick of time, came one of the busiest departments in broadcasting in these days of foreign encounters, the BBC Pronunciation Unit. Ga-roo, they pronounced, with a bit more emphasis on the first syllable than the second. Ga-roo it now is.

Four frantic phoneticists in the bowels

of Broadcasting House have been at battle stations since the beginning of hostilities, coping with a veritable missile battery of people, places and things the BBC's domestic listeners had never heard of, and are rapidly wishing not to hear too much of again. By the time the first Tornadoes had gone in, they had already compiled a list of over 300 Iraqi personalities and place names that might figure in combat.

Their first mission was to identify the enemy; did the Iraqi dictator rhyme with madam or madame? The answer was supplied by the BBC Arabic service at Bush House, staffed by native speakers whose unanimous view was that Saddam was a madame with the stress on the second syllable.

Within hours, the missile attacks were being intercepted by a clever American weapon. "We consulted five current English dictionaries, and all gave 'pa-

triot' with both the long and the short A. Four of them favoured the long A. We also listened to how the Americans were pronouncing it; it is an American weapon, after all. So the long A rules at the BBC," a spokeswoman said.

The unit consults anyone it can find with a knowledge of foreign tongues: embassies, native speakers, Bush House, and of course the Corporation's news correspondents in the field. Mouthtraps closer to home, like Kirkcudbright and Llanerchymedd, were stumbled over so long ago that they are now instantly on phonetic file.

Life would be simple were there but one theatre of news. Edward Shevardnadze, a Soviet foreign minister much admired for the phonetic simplicity of his Georgian surname, is sadly missed by presenters. "His successor is pronounced Bessmyairnich," the spokeswoman said. Of course.



A Sudanese boy in a refugee camp, Hilal 1, in Jordan yesterday, when more than 1,000 refugees, most of them Jordanian, were allowed across the Iraqi border. The boy has been in the camp for two months. Report, Page 3

Germany willing to provide war aid

By MICHAEL BRYNOR, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

GERMANY indicated yesterday that it would help Britain to shoulder some of its war costs if it received a detailed list of what was needed.

The offer follows a telephone call between John Major and Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, last week in which the prime minister appealed for German support.

Yesterday, Norman Lamont, the chancellor, made clear to European Community finance ministers meeting in Brussels, and to other allied countries, that more help is needed and that Britain was looking for "substantial" cash contributions. However, he made no formal request because the EC has no competence to discuss defence.

Theo Waigel, the German finance minister, said Germany would take its fair share of the Gulf burden, and that his government would be announcing new aid soon. Germany has so far given DM 3.3 billion to the allied campaign, divided evenly between the United States and three "front line" states, Turkey, Jordan and Egypt.

Full report, page 4

Prescott rebuked over Gulf speech

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TENSIONS within the Labour party over the Gulf came to a head last night as Neil Kinnock rebuked John Prescott for suggesting that he was backing an extension of the war aims to include the toppling of Saddam Hussein.

Mr Kinnock called his transport spokesman to his

Commons office to complain about Mr Prescott speaking out on a subject outside his shadow cabinet portfolio and suggesting that the leadership's position had changed. There was apparently no suggestion of sacking Mr Prescott from his transport post - he cannot be dismissed from the shadow cabinet to which he is elected - but Mr Kinnock expressed the anger of his leadership colleagues at

what they see as a breach of shadow cabinet responsibility. Mr Prescott heads a sizeable minority of Labour MPs who want to prevent Labour going further than backing the aim of removing Saddam Hussein from Kuwait.

At the weekend Mr Prescott said that "warlike voices" were now claiming that peace could be secured only by destroying Iraq and removing Saddam.

Confusion and delays in a rush to the front

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER NEAR THE SAUDI/KUWAIT BORDER

WITH British field commanders now predicting the launch of a land war against Iraq in under three weeks, late-arriving American troops are still rushing to the front in a bizarre assortment of single and even double-decker buses. Meanwhile, some of their senior officers are lobbying Washington for a longer delay.

The convoys jamming roads northwards in the Saudi desert are travelling with only the barest of protection from air attack. Soldiers say this is because of confidence that the Iraqi air force has been effectively neutralised, although fears are growing of a possible last-ditch kamikaze sweep southwards.

Even the usually hypersensitive US censors have permitted information to be released about the unpreparedness of sections of the American force, leading to suspicion that a full-scale disinformation campaign may now be under way to try to fool President Saddam about the date of any attack.

Less than 72 hours ago, one of the US army divisions earmarked to help to lead the ground assault against the dug-in Iraqi troops had only just over half of its troops and barely one third of its heavy armour and tank-killing helicopters ready for action. Transport and logistics prob-

lems confronting the US Third Armoured Division are being cited as one reason why it may take longer to kick off the ground assault than had been predicted or hoped. For troops who only started desert training with live ammunition last week, the delay has caused a mood of uncertainty and confusion.

Kevin Burke, a young infantry man from Brooklyn, said that he was worried that his platoon might be assigned to another army division if the long-awaited equipment did not arrive. "The last thing that you want is to move in with a new bunch of guys when a ground war is about to start," he complained. "That really scares me."

Soldiers in other US army units have raised the possibility of slow-moving and vulnerable convoys of tracked vehicles being forced to use Saudi tarmac highways to approach the front-line because trailers and other civilian vehicles are not expected to become available.

One reason given for the embarrassing and potentially life-risking delays has been mechanical and crew problems on one cargo ship forced to make an unscheduled call at Malta on its voyage to Saudi Arabia. Urging that there be no rush to open the land war, Colonel Charles Burke, the

top aviation officer in the US Third Armoured Division, which is manning the opposite end of the front line to that being fortified here close to the abandoned Saudi border town of Al-Khafji, argued: "I want to go to war with all my stuff. There is no reason for us to rush."

On a 600-kilometre drive to and from the front-line, I was able to see partially constructed helicopters being rushed forward on lorries along with the buses which were heading north in scores with kibbles tied to roofs, giving the false impression that some outward bound holiday convention was being organised.

A visit to any of the forward units reveals very much the opposite, with the grim reality Continued on page 20, col 6

Soviet output of oil plunges by 10%

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

LEADERS of the Soviet Union's richest oil-producing region, the Tyumen oilfields in west Siberia, have given a warning that the Soviet Union faces an energy catastrophe unless urgent action is taken to increase output. Figures released yesterday showed that production from Tyumen fell by 30 million tonnes last year compared with 1989 and is likely to fall by another 40-50 million tonnes in 1991 - accounting for almost 10 per cent of total Soviet oil production.

A commentary in *Pravda* said that last year's fall in production had cost the Soviet Union at least £10 billion in lost exports, at a time when the country was appealing for foreign help. If the decline in production continued, by 1993 Moscow would not only have to buy oil from abroad, but would have nothing left to pay off its foreign debts.

The commentator complained that Tyumen had not received much of the new equipment earmarked for it in last year's plan and blamed Moscow for not paying sufficient attention to the plight of the industry. It said that aeroplane timetables had already been affected by fuel shortages, and thousands of cars and tractors were standing idle.

While fuel shortages have not yet reached Moscow, the figures from Tyumen add to a picture of unrelieved economic gloom which is emerging from the piecemeal release of last year's economic statistics. According to the state statistical committee, Goskomstat, which customarily takes an over-optimistic view, gross national product fell by two per cent; productivity by three per cent, and energy consumption fell, not because efforts were made to economise, but because of the swift decline in industrial production.

The official figure for the grain harvest was 218 million tonnes, almost 10 per cent lower than originally announced, suggesting a high level of wastage. At the same time, less than 80 per cent of state orders for grain were fulfilled in spite of the relatively good harvest. The value of foreign trade fell by seven per cent.

Customs stormed, page 10

Black berets storm offices

Soviet "black beret" troops burst into two customs offices on the border of Lithuania and Belorussia, beat up Lithuanian officials and smashed the offices. The attacks came a few days before a Kremlin decree comes in force calling for joint army-police patrols. Page 10

Pc's damages



Surinder Singh (above), an Asian police constable, accepted a record £20,000 compensation from Nottinghamshire police for unlawful racial discrimination within the force. Page 8

Missing out

Governors and headteachers of primary schools are failing to take advantage of the opportunities presented by local management, the Audit Commission says. Page 7

Sombre fashion

Even with a war in progress, the couture shows must go on. Liz Smith reports on French fashion houses. Page 16

IRA fears

Police ballistics experts are studying a rifle abandoned by an IRA gunman after an abortive attempt to booby-trap a range used by the territorial army. A resumption of an IRA mailand campaign is feared. Page 20

Polly warning

The administrators to Polly Peck have won access to the company's financial records in Turkey. But a joint administrator has said that he may have to reconstruct the group without its assets in northern Cyprus unless subsidiaries open their books. Page 21

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# Allied strategy follows disgraced Dugan's predictions



Dugan gave full outline of the campaign pattern

NOW that the allied war aims appear to be expanding to include the destruction of much of Iraq's infrastructure and its military machine, the Dugan list is worth re-examining. General Michael Dugan was the US Air Force chief of staff who spoke out of turn in September last year when he revealed America's targeting plans.

General Dugan lost his job. His list of targets which he claimed had the approval of the joint chiefs and General Norman Schwarzkopf, American commander in the Gulf, seemed at the time to be far more comprehensive than the public had been led to expect, if liberating Kuwait was the sole objective of the military operation.

But 11 days into Operation Desert Storm, the strategy appears to be following almost exactly the route outlined by General Dugan, with the liberation of Kuwait as only part of the overall plan. General Dugan said a massive bombing campaign against Baghdad, specifically tar-

geting President Saddam Hussein, was the only effective option to force Iraq out of Kuwait.

The first bombs and missiles were dropped on Baghdad on January 17, although the precision attacks did not compare with General Dugan's comment: "The cutting edge would be in downtown Baghdad". He said: "This (bombing) would not be nibbling at the edges. If I want to hurt you, it would be at home, not out in the woods somewhere".

The Dugan target list included Iraqi power systems, roads, railroads and petroleum production facilities, as well as the more obvious military installations such as air defences, airfields, Scud missile sites, communications and command centres, chemical, nuclear and munitions plants, and Iraqi armoured divisions. All these targets have been hit. Several power stations are known to have been damaged. They were they put on the list as a means of destroying the economic infrastructure of Iraq.

Soon after the invasion of Kuwait, General Michael Dugan was sacked for spelling out US targets in a war against Iraq. Michael Evans looks over the list

The general claimed that except for efforts to limit damage to civilians, the military anticipated wide latitude in picking targets. He did not expect to be concerned about political constraints. But targeting is both a military and a political responsibility. Going for Saddam, his family, his personal guard and his mistress, as General Dugan put it, might make military sense, especially as Iraq's fortunes rely solely on its resources.

Politically, such aims could never be given official approval. The majority of America's coalition partners and the other members of the UN Security Council would probably never have voted in favour of Washington's stand against Saddam if they thought his death and the

destruction of Iraq's military capability were being planned. This is why General Dugan's remarks were untimely.

Washington's interpretation of that resolution is now beginning to alarm some of the security council members, particularly the Soviet Union.

But the momentum for changing the objectives in the war with Iraq is gathering steam. At first there were subtle hints that a drive into Iraq by some of the allied forces could not be ruled out if Saddam survive with his military machine intact. Then Tom King, the defence secretary, spelled it out on Sunday: allowing Saddam to continue menacing the region in the future was out of the question.

So the aims have changed. The

air campaign clearly has two purposes: to weaken Iraq's ability to mount counter-strikes against allied forces when the land offensive begins, and to damage the whole military infrastructure to such a degree that Saddam, or whoever succeeds him, will be incapable of waging war for many years to come. The land campaign will surely have two aims as well: to liberate Kuwait and to push on into Iraq if necessary to ensure the destruction of the key elements of Saddam's military machine which have survived the bombing campaign.

President Bush, in spite of his approval for bombing power stations and other economic targets, has emphasised that the aim is not to destroy Iraq. There must be a proper political and military balance in the region. But there is a better chance of post-war stability if Saddam's conventional forces have been cut down to size and his unconventional arsenals destroyed.

This means that American and British forces may have to be

come engaged in ground action on Iraqi territory. The Washington Post reported yesterday that only eight of Iraq's 30 fixed Scud launchers were fully disabled, about 65 per cent of Iraq's airfields were in working order and 8,000 to 9,000 anti-aircraft artillery batteries were largely unaffected by the allied air attacks. Even if the air campaign were to continue for another two or three weeks, the chances are many of the key military installations will survive.

The prospect of American and British tanks driving up the Iraqi highway towards Baghdad, or of airborne troops parachuting down to some of Saddam's military bases seems a long way from the original goal of liberating Kuwait. But as Mr King said on Sunday, it had taken some time to appreciate the vastness of Saddam's military machine. As the knowledge of his capabilities increased, so the allied objectives began to change.

Woodrow Wyatt, page 12

## BRITISH AIMS

### Parties agree on need to destroy Iraq's war machine

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

UNITED Nations authority is claimed by both the British government and the Labour leadership for their demand that the destruction of Saddam Hussein's military might is a legitimate objective of war in the Gulf.

The final sentence of the all-important UN resolution 678, which empowered the allies to use force to remove the Iraqis from Kuwait, has taken on a new significance in both Washington and London as the potential justification for action going beyond a straight removal of Saddam's forces. It calls on the nations assisting Kuwait to "restore international peace and security in the area."

It was seized upon by Tom King, the defence secretary, on Sunday when he said that forcing the Iraqi troops out of Kuwait, without removing Saddam's ability to mount a future threat, would be a betrayal of the allied forces. It was the most explicit affirmation yet by a British minister that the war may not end purely when Saddam retreats from Kuwait.

Mr King's remarks will cause little trouble with his own side of the Commons. But Neil Kinnock's use of that passage of the UN resolution to vindicate his own backing for action to end Iraq's "superpower status" in the region is causing renewed murmurings of dissent which will come to the surface at tomorrow's monthly meeting of Labour's national executive committee. If anything Mr Kinnock, right from the invasion in August last year, has been consistently more outspoken than government ministers.

In the Commons last week Mr Kinnock said the war aims of liberating Kuwait and restoring the legitimate government were

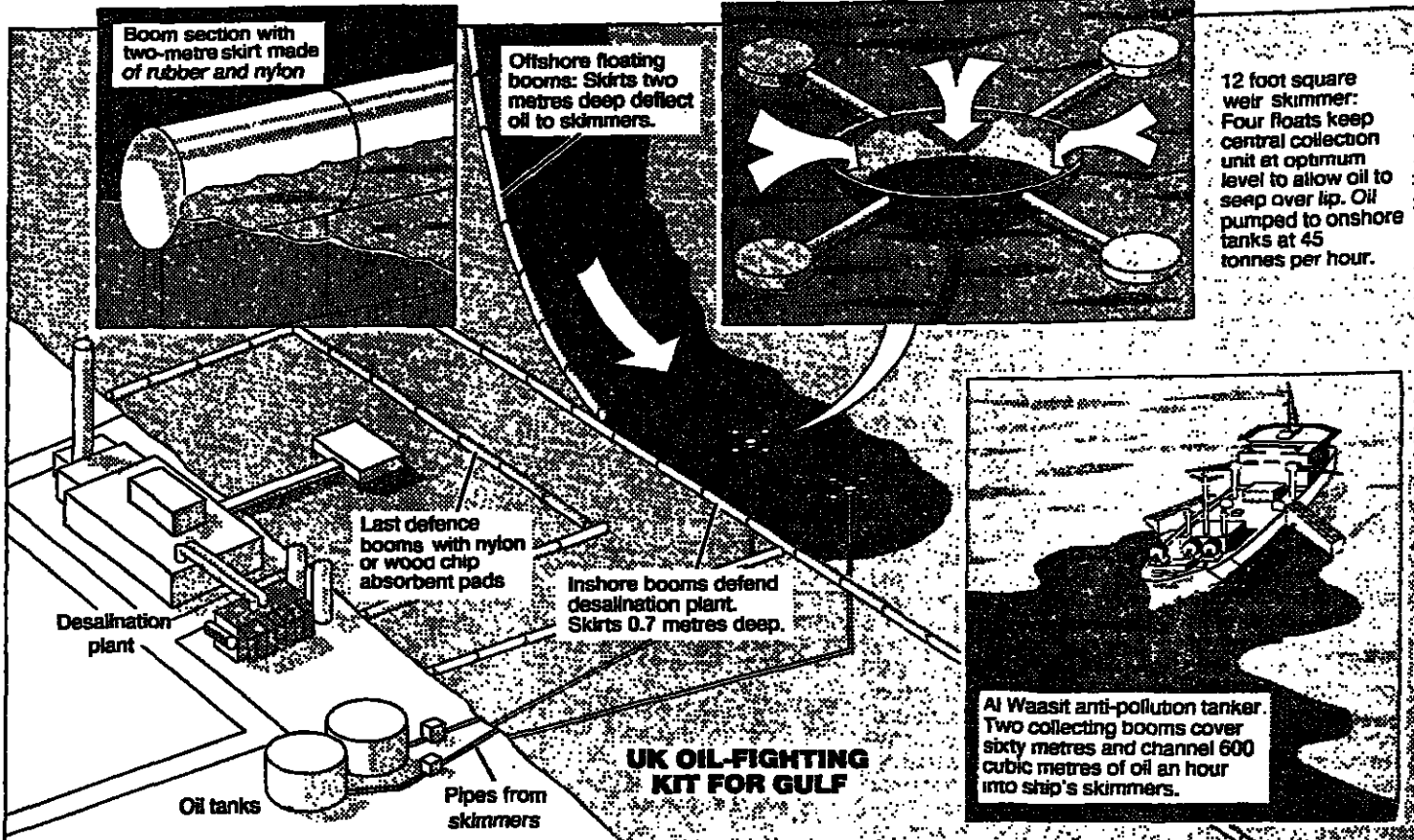
precise and limited. He added: "However, the peace aims must be broader. They must relate not just to the crime that Saddam Hussein committed against international law by invading Kuwait last August; they must also relate to depriving him of the ability to commit such a crime again. The war aims do not relate to the dismembering of Iraq and rightly so. They are not fit objectives for the UN. But the peace aims must involve the substantial dismantling of Iraq by the reduction of conventional forces and the verified and complete removal of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons and the means of making them," he added.

Labour leadership sources said yesterday that the resolution's aim of restoring peace and security to the area, and the objective backed by Labour of a Middle East peace conference, could not be fulfilled while Saddam retained the nuclear and chemical potential with which he could threaten his neighbours.

Mr Kinnock's remarks appeared to many on his own side at Westminster to go further than both Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, and John Major, the prime minister, were prepared to go in stating their versions of the war aims last week.

Mr Major has neatly sidestepped a Tory MP's request to agree that Saddam's destruction was a legitimate war aim: "I strongly suspect that Saddam Hussein may yet become a target for his own people... He is a man without pity, and whatever his fate may be, I for one will not weep for him."

Old then, page 12  
Letters, page 13



## OIL POLLUTION

### British technology to the rescue

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

NINETY tonnes of some of the world's best oil-slick fighting equipment was being airlifted last night from RAF bases and Stansted airport for deployment in the Gulf in response to an urgent request by Saudi Arabia for technical assistance to fight the huge oil slick sweeping down from Kuwait.

The equipment, equivalent to nine articulated lorry loads, was dispatched in the early morning from the Oil Spill Service Centre in Southampton, which helped in the Exxon Valdez incident in Alaska. The equipment is stockpiled for emergencies by 13 of the world's leading oil companies, including BP and Saudi Aramco.

It is being sent to help prevent coastal power stations and desalination plants, which produce drinking water, from becoming clogged with oil. The slick, which is claimed to have been pumped by Iraq into the Gulf from Kuwait's Mina al-Ahmadi terminal, yesterday measured more than 35 miles long and 10 miles wide and was heading south at an estimated 13 miles per hour.

A Saudi Meteorological and Environmental Protection Agency spokesman said the slick could reach Jubail, site of the world's

biggest desalination plant, in about two days.

The British airlift is being co-ordinated by the transport department's marine pollution control unit. Barry Halton, a spokesman for the Southampton centre, said the equipment could be deployed in various ways following on-site assessments of the Gulf's currents and the slick's movement.

A mile and a half of ocean booms, two chambered structures made of chloroprene rubber, can be used to channel oil to a collection point. The booms have air-filled tanks within which there are either water-filled chambers or skirts which reach around two metres below the surface.

Four weirs skimmers, made of four floats and a central cup over which oil for collection spills, have been sent for siting at the collection point. Hydraulic pumps transfer the oil to on-shore tanks. Four vacuum skimmers have also been sent for on-shore clean-up work. Two miles of in-shore booms, whose skirts reach about half a mile below the surface, have been airlifted.

Half a mile of absorbent booms, consisting of nylon or wood chip pads held by "hair nets", have been rushed out. They can absorb up to 25 times their own weight,

meaning that the eight-inch types can soak up 30 miles of oil. They will be deployed as a second line of defence in front of installations to mop up oil not trapped by the main booms and skimmers. Anchors, buoys and pumping systems have also been dispatched.

At the same time the Al Wasit, the Norwegian-registered anti-pollution tanker, was steaming into the region from Dubai equipped with the latest technology for collecting and skimming oil at sea. The 1,650-tonne ship, the only one of its kind outside the North Sea, can swallow around a half a mile of oil a day and was expected to dock at Jubail late yesterday.

In north London a team of scientists with Archaeus Technology, a biotechnology company with academic links to Queen Mary and Westfield Colleges, were on standby to ship naturally occurring bacteria to Saudi beaches.

The bacteria, when fed with high-nitrogen fertiliser, produce a natural detergent that allows teams to rinse oil into collection trenches without harming marine life. Trials in the Isle of Wight last summer with Vikoma, a pollution control equipment maker, indicated that the bacteria can clean

around 50 per cent of oil off a beach.

Two British consultants, George Hubbard and Neil Howie of Alpha Biological Treatment Services, near Norwich, were also on standby with another range of oil-eating bacteria. The oil is turned into carbon dioxide, water and fatty acids. The fatty acids can be eaten by fish or microbes and also act as a natural detergent.

Mr Howie said recent sea trials off Ipswich with trade and industry department scientists from Warren, Spring, Laboratories, Hertfordshire, indicated the bacterial "cocktail" was able to degrade up to 70 per cent of a slick in 24 hours.

Two and-a-half tonnes of bacteria, claimed to be enough to tackle the slick, have been loaded into pallets in the US by Alpha Environmental of Austin Texas for shipment in 48 hours.

US Coast Guard and Environmental Protection Agency experts yesterday arrived in Riyadh to advise on the best tactics for fighting the slick.

Michael Haselme, the environment secretary, told the House of Commons that the marine pollution control unit was considering sending a team of British pollution experts to the Gulf.

## PROPAGANDA

### Both sides face daily challenge to nail the lie

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

IRAQ's deliberate pollution of the Gulf has been a propaganda boon for the West. Pictures of dying cormorants have done more to rouse public anger in Europe, especially Germany, than any evidence of President Saddam Hussein's cruelty to people.

The war of words has not gone entirely as the West would like, however. Boasts that "Iraq can take it" under the allied blitz have cheered the Muslim world, depressed the West and undercut early allied claims of swift victory.

The allies have had to deal with propaganda from Baghdad day in, day out. Saudi Arabia denied Iraqi claims at the weekend that 20 Israeli aircraft had taken part in allied bombing raids and last week Syria poured scorn on claims that Israeli planes had flown over Syria.

Britain has instructed its diplomats in Muslim countries to refute claims that the Shia shrines at Karbala and Najaf have been attacked. American officials were quick to point out that the "baby milk factory" attacked by allied bombers had been surrounded by armed guards and barbed wire, and was probably a biological weapons institute.

Nailing the big lie has become a daily task for the allies. Propaganda falls on fertile ground in the Arab world, especially when access to unbiased information is slight. Suspicion of the Western media in Arab and most Third World countries is being skillfully exploited by Iraq. Baghdad knows the power of images and many in countries far from the conflict, are ready to accept its claims of shooting down well over 160 aircraft. Iraqi propaganda uses a variety of images to reach different targets. Television pictures of ruined churches and wounded children in hospital are designed to influence Western audiences. So, too, were the televised statements of allied airmen: when they provoked outrage instead of doubts, the demeaning spectacle was quickly dropped.

For the Muslim world, different emotive themes are chosen: the allied insult to Islam, the involvement of Israel, the backing back to the era of Arab glory. Baghdad radio has promised martyrdom, a cherished fate for devout Muslims, to all those sacrificing their lives in attacks on allied forces.

While Iraq has largely failed to respond to allied taunts that it cannot produce "evidence" of its claims, its use of threats still plays on Western fears. Anxiety about the use of chemical and biological weapons, of attacks on Israel, of the destruction of oil wells, formed part of the Iraqi defence before the war began. Baghdad has since made determined efforts to realise these warnings, but the most potent threat, of poison gas and chemical weapons, has yet to materialise.

Meanwhile, the allies are keeping up a stream of their own propaganda, backed up where possible by television evidence. They have shown videos of the damage their bombs are causing, beamed documentation of human rights abuses at Iraq, showered the country with leaflets, invoked the support of prominent Muslims and listed the number of aircraft and men defecting each day.

Nevertheless, General Norman Schwarzkopf was forced to admit on Sunday that churches could have been hit unintentionally. The allies cannot easily dismiss reports that large numbers of civilians have been killed and Western censors are cutting out not only material that could help the enemy, but reports thought to be demoralising to broadcast.

Back-room hero, page 16

## WAR IN THE GULF: DAY 12

### ALLIED FORCES

**SORTIES:** More than 24,800 allied air missions flown since war began.

**LOSSES:** A US Marine Corps Harrier jet was reported lost in combat yesterday, the first allied plane lost in 72 hours. It brought to 24 the number of planes lost; 18 in combat, including 11 American, 5 British, 1 Kuwaiti, 1 Italian. Non-combat losses: 3 American planes, 1 British, 1 Saudi. One British plane lost to undetermined causes, 3 American helicopters to non-hostile causes, 27 men are missing in action, including 14 Americans and 10 Britons.

**SCUD ATTACKS:** Sunday night was the first time for a week that no Iraqi Scud missiles were fired. A total of 56 were launched in previous attacks on Israel and Saudi Arabia, the vast majority being brought down by Patriot defensive missiles.

**CLAIMS:** Allied bombers have wrecked several vital Iraqi airfields, the British military spokesman, Group Captain Niall Irving, said in Riyadh. He refused to comment on press reports that up to 65 per cent of Iraq's airfields were still operational after 12 days of allied bombing. Group Captain Irving said British Tornado fighter bombers were now attacking Saddam Hussein's key military supply lines. "Saddam may have plenty of oil... we are determined to deny him petrol to refuel his military machine."

More than 100 Iraqi aircraft have flown into Iran since the Gulf war started, according to a briefing by the Ministry of Defence. Twenty-three Iraqi planes had been destroyed on the ground by the allies. Brigadier General Pat Stevens, for the Pentagon, said American forces had attacked an Iraqi naval base at Umm Qasr. He said the allies had so far captured 109 prisoners of war.

### IRAQI FORCES

**CLAIMS:** Air defences shot down three aircraft or missiles during 118 allied air raids on military and civilian targets during the previous 24 hours. Iraq's 27th military communiqué said 50 Israeli planes flew to Saudi Arabia at dawn yesterday "to join the aggressive armies there". The report was denied. An earlier communiqué said air defences had shot down an allied aircraft which "fell in flames inside Turkish territory". Turkey denied the report. The earlier communiqué also said the multinational force had staged 50 raids on Iraqi territory from bases in Saudi Arabia "against populated areas in our country and against our forces" since Sunday morning. Iraq says it has shot down more than 170 planes since the war began on January 17.

### ALLIED WAR AIMS

**BRITAIN:** Following the statement by Tom King, the defence secretary, that "Saddam Hussein's obscene military machine" could not be left intact once Kuwait was liberated, the Labour party's debate about war aims is expected to be renewed tomorrow when its national executive meets. There are renewed murmurings of dissent following Mr Kinnock's call for an end to Iraq's "superpower status" in the region.

**AMERICA:** President Bush said Washington does not seek the destruction of Iraq and said the war in the Gulf is aimed solely at reversing Saddam's aggression. "It is a just war and it is a war in which goodwill prevails... we do not seek the destruction of Iraq. We have respect for the people of Iraq. We don't want to see a country so destabilised that Iraq itself will become a target," he said in an address to the National Religious Broadcasters' convention.

## Bomb tailor-made for terminal strike

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

The GBU-15 modular guide bomb, ordered in bulk by the United States Air Force in the spring of 1980, could have been tailor-made for the job of destroying the manifolds which control the flow of oil at the Mina al-Ahmadi terminal in Kuwait.

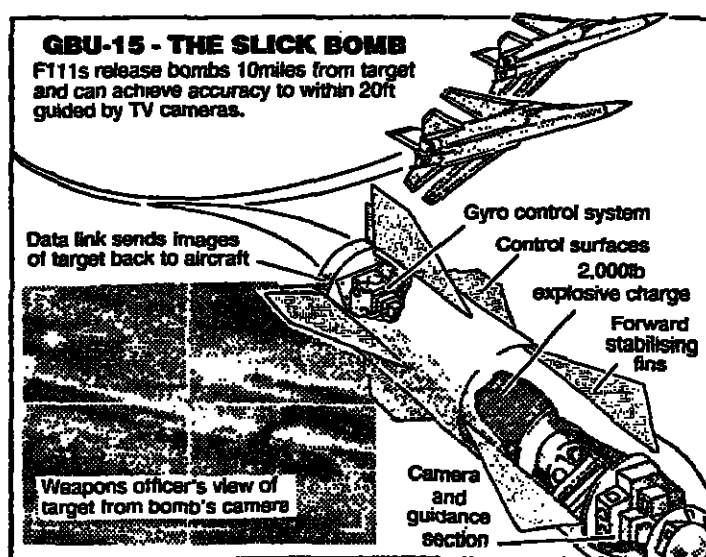
The designers of 3,94 metre-long bomb intended it for use against heavily defended fixed targets such as bridges, tunnels, airfields, control centres and fixed missile sites. Their intention was to produce a powerful punch and could be guided to its target without putting at risk the aircrew.

It had to have a aiming device which would allow the pilot to see the target without being seen himself. So Rockwell International, the main contractors for the weapon, went to Hughes Aircraft and asked them to design a video recorder which would transmit pictures seen by the television camera in the nose of the bomb back to the aircraft's weapons officer and to produce the electronic circuitry which would enable him to guide the weapon precisely to its target.

After years of research and development through the 1970s, trials of the resulting design proved more successful than even the most optimistic forecasts had predicted, with a success rate of well over 85 per cent.

The bomb itself is not powered by any motor but relies on the forward momentum of the aircraft to propel it towards its target from distances which vary between 1.5 kilometres to 80 kilometres (5 miles), depending on the height and speed at which it is launched.

The four large rear fins are pre-set to take the bomb either upwards immediately after launch from a low altitude, or on a gradual descent if launched from height. A series of gyroscopes act as an automatic pilot, moving the fins to ensure that the missile keeps exactly to the track pre-determined before the aircraft takes off.



and each launched a bomb slung beneath their swept back wings in its general direction. From several miles out the camera began relaying its images - deliberately in black and white to give better contrast - while the weapons operators moved a small control column near their right hand until two white cross lines bisected the exact spot which they had been told would cut the flow of oil through the manifolds.

Once the weapon was heading for the exact centre of the target they pressed a button on top of the column which locked the missile's electronic eye in position - technically "designating" the target -

and it flew straight towards it, while the weapons operators watched as it grew larger and larger on their screens before everything went blank as the missile struck home and the 2,000lb charge exploded.

The bomb has a wingspan of 1.5 metres and weight 1,140 kilograms. If night time attacks are planned the television camera in the nose of the missile can be replaced with an infra-red imager.

The GBU-15 is in use on USAF F-4 Phantoms, F-11s and B-52s as well as the F-111 and has been sold to Australia and Israel.

سكود من العراق



## Correspondents in the war zone report on the progress of Operation Desert Storm

## WAR AT SEA

## Air supremacy a key factor in strategy for coast landing

From JAMIE DETTMER, ON BOARD HMS LONDON

IN THE wake of last week's amphibious rehearsal by elements of the American fourth and fifth marine expeditionary brigades, Iraqi military planners are now no doubt considering how they can repel an allied landing on the Kuwaiti coast.

The US has amassed in the Gulf the biggest sea-going force seen since the Korean war. The bulk of America's amphibious forces are now committed to the Gulf. The first and seventh marine expeditionary brigades (MEBs) are ashore in Saudi Arabia, while the fourth and fifth MEBs are embarked on 27 amphibious warships led by the command ship Blue Ridge.

It is unlikely that the allies would attempt a landing until they have achieved air supremacy. With Saddam Hussein holding back his best aircraft, such as the Mirage-FIs and the MiG-29 full-crum fighters, the allies can make little progress towards dominating the sky.

The recent appearance of Iraqi aircraft in Iran further complicates the picture for allied planners. Will Iran release Iraqi aeroplanes at Baghdad's request? Or should the allies discount about 100 aeroplanes parked in Iranian airfields and assume that they will play no further part in the conflict?

Most military planners normally favour using worst-case scenarios. Allied tacticians in the Gulf are unlikely to depart from that approach, and are probably including the Iranian-based Iraqi planes in their calculations.

In the 1982 Falklands war, British naval forces had to fight without air superiority. Six British ships were sunk and ten others were badly damaged. The fulfilment of naval weapons systems was an abiding lesson of the Falklands war. The battle for San Carlos water also highlighted the difficulties for naval forces in resisting air strikes when in shore.

Royal Navy officers have argued that their tactics quickly conquered the Exocet missile threat. However, most naval officers involved in the Falklands war

accept that if the Argentine air force had possessed more than five anti-ship Exocet missiles, British losses probably would have been higher.

In the Gulf, allied naval forces face a much greater Exocet threat. Thirty-one of Iraq's 100 or so Mirage-FIs are believed to bear anti-ship Exocet missiles. A concerted attack by Iraqi Mirages would almost certainly be overcome by the allies, but a few Mirages would get through and within Exocet-firing range of allied ships.

If the allies decided to go ahead with a landing without having destroyed the bulk of Iraq's most dangerous fighters, a major high-technology battle off the shores of Kuwait would take place. The allies would have to consider not only the Exocet threat, but Iraqi ground forces have anti-surface Silkworm missile batteries located in key places along Kuwait's coast.

In any landing on the Kuwaiti coast, the allies will have to rely on the so-called point defences of their warships. These include Britain's Sea Wolf missile system, fitted to the type-22 frigates HMS London and HMS Brazen. American warships would use older missile systems, Sea Sparrow and the basic point missile defence system. US warships would also bring to bear the Falcon Phalanx, a close-up rapid-firing gun.

All these point defence weapons can knock out Exocets and Silkworms, as well as aircraft. However, the Sea Wolf system is widely considered the best of them. In the Falklands, Sea Wolf missiles destroyed five Argentine aircraft, and since then Sea Wolf has been radically refined.

However, the allies will hope that Iraqi aircraft will be knocked out long before they pose a threat to any landing craft and warship escorts. Here, the allies would rely on long-range missiles: Britain's Sea Dart system, fitted to the type-42 destroyers, HMS Cardiff and HMS Gloucester, and the Americans' standard missile, controlled by the Aegis system.

Britain's role in an amphibious operation would be significant. As well as the likely involvement of four type-22 frigates and four type-42 destroyers in the Gulf, the allies would look for a major contribution from Britain's seven mine-sweepers in the Gulf. British expertise in mine clearance is well respected.

An oil slick off Kuwait would make minesweeping ahead of a landing that much more difficult. A slick would, however, have little effect on allied warships. Although the ships suck up their water requirements from the sea, they do not use surface water where the oil would lie. Deep-suction systems draw on lower depths.

An oil slick would be hard to set alight as a defensive ploy by the Iraqis. Lighter oils in the slick would rapidly evaporate, leaving a sludgy tar.

In the end, the allies would rely in a landing on their strength in the air. The judgment that allied planners must make is whether they can afford to attempt a landing without having destroyed the Mirage-FIs and MiG-29s.

However, a thick oil slick could pose a problem for crews on minesweepers, because it would give off toxic fumes, including hydrogen sulphide.

(This dispatch is subject to allied military reporting restrictions)



Desert bowl: US troops watching the Super Bowl early yesterday morning on an outdoor screen in Saudi Arabia cheer as the Giants score. Report, page 32

## FRONT LINE

## Bringing home the misery of life on the other side

From PHILIP JACOBSON IN SAUDI ARABIA

THE explosions began as we were strolling to the cookhouse for supper, marvelling at the brightness of the stars on a night of extraordinary clarity. They sounded far off, possibly from the direction of the forward Iraqi positions in Kuwait, and were heavier and more frequent than anything we have heard so far in this sector.

By the time we had finished eating a spicy curry the distant crumps were coming three or four times a minute. Standing outside our tent, we could occasionally see the lights of allied warplanes and once an aircraft was briefly silhouetted against the bright, almost full, moon — the sort they call a bombers' moon.

We still do not know exactly which section of the Iraqi lines received this pounding, but it is not hard to imagine the plight of the Iraqi soldiers who endured several unbroken hours of terror. Air attacks at night must surely have a shattering effect on morale.

Without hope of protective air cover from their own side, the front-line units — with a heavy

proportion of lightly trained conscripts — could only huddle deeper into their bunkers and pray for first light.

As it happens, enemy morale was very much on the mind of Brigadier Patrick Cordingley, the 7th Armoured Brigade commander, when we ran across him earlier in the day. Surrounded by the colonels of his units before the start of an intricate exercise known as a "telephone battle", he was keen to emphasise the contrast between the position of the British troops, for the most part warm, well fed and considerably less tense about the Scud missile threat, with that of their Iraqi counterparts. "Everything we know suggests they are having a miserable time of it."

Watching the latest war exercise gather pace in the dimly lit command vehicles at brigade headquarters, while officers crouched over minutely detailed maps and juggled a stream of radio traffic and phone calls on secure lines, the shape of the allied ground offensive gradually became more clear. For security

reasons, there is not much we can say about it at this stage, but the depths of planning and training that lie behind the strategy, employing "mix and match" formations of armour, infantry and combat engineers, were fully evident.

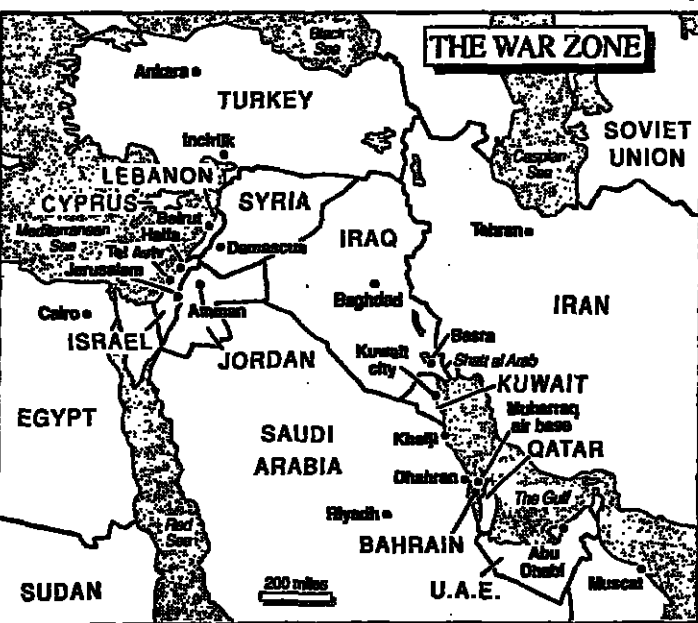
It is said, of course, that no battle plan survives the first shock of contact. As one young officer cheerfully observed: "You can get it right on paper and rehearse the guys to perfection, but they still haven't invented the crystal ball that tells you what the enemy will do when the shooting starts."

Last night's savage battering of Iraqi lines was followed by a long downpour, turning the sand into clinging liquid mud; it was uncomfortable enough for us in stout tents and warm sleeping bags. How much worse it must have been, how sapping to the spirit, over on the other side.

Yet while these considerations encourage the allied planners, there is no room for over-confidence. The history of war contains too many accounts of troops, who did not know, or would not acknowledge, that they were beaten, reaching deep into their reserves of courage and stamina and, one presumes, pride to fight on in hopeless circumstances. Nothing that allied intelligence can glean from the trickle of deserters crossing from the Iraqi positions suggests that the main body of the enormous troop concentrations assembled near the border with Saudi Arabia is approaching cracking point.

Only time will tell whether the repeated air attacks can finally drain the spirit from them. It would be too much to say that the British soldiers with whom we mix every day feel sorry for the enemy; the approving nods that greet every extra-loud explosion from the right direction testify to that. But they do have a keen understanding of what the Iraqis are going through.

(This dispatch is subject to allied military reporting restrictions.)



## WAR IN THE AIR

## Buccaneers prepare for action in new allied offensive

From LIN JENKINS WITH THE RAF IN THE GULF

AS THE newest arrivals in the Gulf went operational yesterday it was clear that the unlikely combination of elderly low-tech aircraft and precision bomb-guiding technology of the RAF Buccaneers holds much affection for their air crews.

The aircraft, built in the Sixties, emerged in their new desert camouflage, salmon pink, like pensioners with new perms, to taxi down the airfield for their first practice missions over the Gulf.

"I like to think she's a bit like my granny," said Wing Commander Bill Cope, aged 43, as he clambered from the cockpit after his first flight in the desert arena. "She was old too, but everybody said she was formidable."

Flight Lieutenant Carl Wilson, aged 32, a navigator on Buccaneers for seven years, was equally tender. "She was built in the days of planes being made out of box girders and railway sleepers. Nothing's going to stop this thing. She's an oldie, but a goodie."

The need for the subsonic Buccaneer in combat came as a surprise for the air crews from RAF Lossiemouth, Scotland, as it did to those dictating strategy. The

reinforced bunkers where Iraq's airforce remains hidden, largely intact, demand precision bombing.

The move has come as the RAF has started to switch the focus of its bombing raids from airfields to targets such as communications installations, ammunition dumps, artillery batteries, supply lines and missile sites. Each of the half-squadron of Buccaneers has a Paveway laser designator that can pinpoint targets with devastating accuracy.

Group Captain David Henderson, commander of the RAF detachment in the Gulf, said: "We're moving away from airfields ever so slightly while we wait to see if his air force comes up. When we see some evidence of them, we'll go back again and attack his airfields. Until we do, we'll concentrate on other targets, which have a higher priority."

Five RAF Tornado strike aircraft have been shot down in attacks on Iraqi targets. The Tornados, which are mostly used in attacks on airfields, swoop in low to release their bombs, exposing themselves to heavy ground-fire. Buccaneers, working with Tornados and Jaguars, will be able to launch laser-guided bombs from a distance, avoiding most anti-aircraft fire.

Group Captain Niall Irving, British forces spokesman in the Gulf, said: "The first thing they'll know about it is when the bomb comes through the door."

The sophisticated laser tracking system is in a pod aboard the Buccaneer. It locks on to the target allowing bombs dropped by Tornados and Jaguars to follow precisely the track of the beam.

Flt Lt Wilson said: "It's a posh video game, an old piece of kit which the Americans developed for Vietnam and we have adapted. From the back seat, you're actually aiming at the laser and tracking the target all the time. You have a TV picture of the target and the bombs going off. It gives you a big kick."

Flight Lieutenant Glen Mason, aged 27, said that the system allowed "smart bombs" to be delivered with almost incredible accuracy. "You can put them through a door, you can put them through a particular window, you can put them where you want to. Give us a target — Land Rover, anything — the navigator just puts his cross hairs on it and takes it out. Simple as that."

The change in tactics to target aircraft hangars left the men with short notice of their entry into the war. Some were in Gibraltar and others on maritime flight exercises in Cornwall when the decision was made. Wing Cdr Cope said: "Some only had eight hours between getting back home and leaving for here."

"I feel apprehensive, worried, and scared, but with the heights and speeds we will be flying at I think we'll be fairly safe. The operation by the Tornados and Jaguars so far has been damn good. The environment we'll be going into will be considerably less threatening than that at the early stages."

The tactical change began to take effect yesterday, when RAF Tornados attacked an Iraqi oil refinery.

(This report is subject to allied military reporting restrictions)



Wing Cdr Cope: "I think we'll be fairly safe"

## EGYPT

## Foreign 'sabotage team' detained

From MICHAEL KNIFE IN CAIRO

THE Egyptian authorities have arrested a number of foreigners trying to enter the country to carry out sabotage, an Egyptian interior ministry source said yesterday.

The foreigners bore false passports and large amounts of foreign currencies, according to the government-controlled Middle East news agency in a report which was later confirmed by the interior ministry.

The report said that the foreigners from a number of unspecified countries had made detailed confessions about their assignments — which were aimed at "undermining security and stability in Egypt because of its stand against the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait."

When Iraq crossed the border Egypt tightened its security, and since the allies' began their offensive stringent precautions have been enforced at strategic locations including the Suez canal and the Aswan dam.

Many tourist attractions were initially closed but the interior ministry later announced that acts of sabotage and terrorism were likely to emanate from Arab sources so ancient monuments and other tourist sites were being reopened to Westerners while staying closed to Arabs.

The need for vigilance has been underlined by a vitriolic attack on President Mubarak by Iraqi radio which predicted that the Egyptian leader would soon be assassinated by his own people.

Baghdad radio said on Sunday night that President Mubarak was a "frightened coward" and said he was "lacking in manliness" and said he had sold out his country for the money. That clearly referred to the US agreement to write off Egypt's \$7 billion foreign debt for its support in the Gulf war.

The Iraqi commentary called the Egyptian leader stupid and "lacking in manliness" and said he had sold out his country for the money. That clearly referred to the US agreement to write off Egypt's \$7 billion foreign debt for its support in the Gulf war.

## JORDAN

## Refugees say Iraqi hospitals closed to civilians

From EDWARD GORMAN IN AMMAN

REFUGEES crossing into Jordan from Iraq yesterday claimed that hospitals throughout Iraq had been closed to civilians in order to cope with an apparent flood of military casualties. The latest batch of over 1,000 refugees, most of them Jordanians, were allowed across the border at Ruwished, after spending several nights in the freezing desert awaiting the reopening of the frontier.

A 22-year-old Jordanian, a former employee of a property development company in Kuwait, said the new three-lane highway from Baghdad to the border had been extensively damaged by allied bombing. Speaking in English he said: "It was very tough. We came from Kuwait to Jordan — the new road was almost destroyed. Civilian cars were touched by the bombs from the planes and it was very difficult to find petrol."

He added that on a number of occasions during his journey he witnessed bombing raids and that allied bombing was continuing 24 hours a day and all the shops in Baghdad were shut. He claimed the price of petrol had risen from 1.8 Iraqi dinars to fill a 25 litre tank to around 150 dinars. "If we had known it would be so hard to find

petrol we would have stayed in Kuwait," he said.

Relief officials cautioned that information gathered from refugees and others reaching Jordan from Iraq was often inconsistent or inaccurate. Hans Einhaus, co-ordinator of emergency operations for the United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation in Amman, said: "Whatever we hear from them is contradictory and doesn't give us a clear picture." Mr Einhaus added that there were nevertheless indications that some of the infrastructure in Iraq had been destroyed and that there were problems with electricity, water and sewerage.

In addition to around 800 Jordanians, Syrians, Sudanese and Lebanese were permitted to cross the border yesterday leaving an unknown number — possibly several thousand — of others including Indians, Yemenis, and more Sudanese, still stranded in the desert awaiting permission from the Iraqis to leave. Relief officials who have been supplying food, medicines and blankets to those still on the Iraqi side of the border, say refugees are not heading orders from Baghdad to return to the Iraqi capital to get exit visas before travelling on to Jordan.

The possible influx of over a million

more refugees and the increasing likelihood that oil supplies from Iraq will be seriously disrupted, if not stopped altogether, could cause chaos for a country with no oil of its own and very limited reserves.

On Sunday there were unverifiable claims by refugees that allied planes had bombed the road between Baghdad and the Jordanian frontier, which is used by lorry tankers bringing crude to Jordan. If such attacks continue, tanker drivers may find it either too difficult or too dangerous to continue making trips.

Most independent observers believe Jordan's chances of avoiding being dragged into the conflict are improving by the day. The most important single development to Jordan's advantage has been the delivery to Israel of Patriot missiles and the measured response by Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, to repeated Scud attacks by Iraq.

Another key feature has been the reduction of tension within Jordan itself, where the militantly pro-Iraqi and largely Palestinian population had been expected to prove possibly uncontrollable once hostilities began over Kuwait.

Senior Jordanian officials are reluctant to acknowledge publicly the relief within

King Hussein's government and certainly do not want to be seen to be praising Israel for what the White House has described as its "restraint" in the face of Iraqi provocation.

Ibrahim Izzadene, minister for information and a former Jordanian ambassador in Washington who is regarded as being close to the king, said yesterday: "It's too early to know exactly what is going to happen," he said. "We have a feeling ... that this is a war that will go [on] for some time ... so it's very difficult to just have a feeling that things are secure [for Jordan] at this stage."

The king has noticeably toned down his criticism of America, the allied powers and their conduct of the war. This suggests he is already working towards what many here regard as the inevitable rapprochement with his former friends in the West and some in the Gulf, which Jordan will desperately need both economically and diplomatically once the conflict is over, assuming an allied victory.

While in the short term Jordan's strategic and security situation continues to improve and anti-American and anti-Western sentiment has given away to elation at the strikes on Israel, the situation could become volatile again if Saddam Hussein is decisively defeated.



# Distant conflict raises level of angst at home for Germans

MORE than 63 per cent of the German population suffer angst whenever they think about the Gulf war, compared with 36 per cent who are not worried, according to the latest television poll.

The result contrasts with views in France, where an overwhelming 76 per cent in the latest poll were convinced the war was just.

But only in The Netherlands do levels of approval for the war approach the 86 per cent recorded in Britain by *The Sunday Times* Gulf panel last weekend.

The German poll showed that 85 per cent thought that President Saddam Hussein was chiefly responsible for the war, compared with only 3 per cent who blamed the United States — a view shared to varying degrees by other Europeans in recent polls.

But Germans are much more divided about the involvement

of their own country. Respondents in the monthly Politbarometer by the ZDF channel were split between those who thought that Germany should become involved if Turkey were attacked (48 per cent), and those who thought it should stay out of any conflict even if that happened (47 per cent).

The poll also showed that the Gulf war is still significantly less important to people living in eastern Germany than is the economic situation, with 83 per cent of those in the east who were questioned insisting that it was "unfair" that workers in the west were paid more money for doing similar work.

In another poll for *Der Spiegel*, a majority of 58 per cent against 32 per cent supported the decision to send Luftwaffe aircraft to Turkey, although only 43 per

## Opinion polls have exposed divergent views on the Gulf among Europeans, Alan Capps writes. The British and Dutch share the highest approval of the war

cent were in favour of them becoming involved in fighting if Turkey were attacked.

A separate poll of people's worries found that Germans were most concerned about Israel being drawn into the war, followed by anxiety about a worldwide environmental catastrophe and then terrorism in Germany. Oil shortage fears were the least of their concerns.

On the question of Germany's role in helping to arm Iraq, a Wickert Institute poll on Sunday showed that 79 per cent felt shame about this against only 10

per cent who did not.

A French opinion poll published yesterday showed unwavering support for President Mitterrand's deployment of forces in the Gulf. Some 77 per cent polled by the BVA market research company for the newspaper *Libération* said they approved of his policy. Only 18 per cent disapproved.

Up to 70 per cent also said they supported President Bush's handling of the conflict, and 76 per cent said they believed the United States and its allies were right to go to war against Iraq. A

total of 79 per cent said they approved of French air force raids on Iraqi territory, while 17 per cent disapproved.

Asked what they thought was the American objective, 38 per cent said the liberation of Kuwait, while another 38 per cent said the fall of Saddam and 26 per cent the destruction of Iraqi military potential.

Dutch support for the Gulf campaign has been increased by outrage at the Iraqi Scud attacks on Israel. An Amsterdam university survey last week showed that 86 per cent of the population support military action against Saddam, compared with 68 per cent on the eve of war.

After nine days of war, Italian hawks are gaining steadily on the doves, according to the latest opinion polls. On January 19, 42.9 per cent of Italians were in

favour of participation, while 52.1 were against. By January 25 the figures had become 44.1 and 46.9 per cent respectively.

Italians, however, are pessimistic about the results of the conflict, with 59.7 per cent believing that the war "will involve a great part of the Middle East nations", and 65.9 per cent saying that "negotiations should be intensified". Only 28.1 per cent want to intensify military action.

Despite sparse anti-war demonstrations, normally-neutral Danes gave 76 per cent support to the war in a Gallup poll, for the leading conservative daily *Berlingske Tidende*. Only 11 per cent saw the war as wrong.

Attitudes to increasing Denmark's military involvement in the Gulf are more equivocal, with 44 per cent favouring extra

military assistance and 47 per cent opposed. Denmark has a 100-man crewed Corvette in the Gulf and has sent gas masks to Turkey and Israel, medical teams to the war zone and has set up a hospital for war casualties in Denmark.

The poll also reveals that 52 per cent of Danes see the main motivation for the Gulf war as being to protect Western oil supplies.

Only 29 per cent believe it is purely to counter Iraqi aggression against Kuwait.

A poll commissioned by the Norwegian newspaper *Dagbladet* showed 80 per cent of a 631-strong sample believe Iraq will be forced out of Kuwait. Four per cent think the country will hold Kuwait successfully against the allied forces and 16 per cent "don't know".

## Hurd hopes to soothe Germany's feelings over money grumbles

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR raised the question of German financial help for British forces in the Gulf in a conversation last week with Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, and Germany has asked Britain to draw up a detailed list of its needs which Bonn will try to meet.

Germany, however, has been shocked and angered by British accusations at the weekend of foot-dragging, which German officials say has created a climate of emotion that makes negotiations more difficult.

"We are always available for a rational, reasonable discussion," a senior German official said yesterday.

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, will go to Bonn, probably tomorrow, and will try to calm the atmosphere.

But talks on burden-sharing will have to wait until the war cabinet has looked at the list of allies it will approach and what each will be asked to provide.

Mr Hurd's visit is to discuss the outlines of a postwar peace settlement, exchanging the same ideas

with Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign minister, that he put last week to Roland Dumas in Paris. But the public criticisms of German attitudes over the Gulf crisis are bound to be a central topic.

A senior German official accused the media in Britain of ignoring the money Germany had already pledged for the allied war effort, the presence of its ships in the Gulf and planes in Turkey. Germany was prohibited constitutionally from sending troops to the area. It was not practical to demand that Bonn change its constitution so soon after reunification, reversing a policy of 40 years and laying Germany open to accusations of flexing its newfound muscles.

The Foreign Office has been embarrassed by the public row over money. It does not want to identify those who will be targeted, believing this will only antagonise public opinion and make it more difficult to raise contributions. But ministers have raised the issue in every recent encounter with European partners and others.

By chance the new Belgian ambassador, Herman Dehenin, yesterday called on Mr Hurd, for a first meeting after presenting his credentials. The Belgian refusal to provide Britain with ammunition before the war has drawn waspish comment from British officials, and Belgium's contribution to the war effort was one of the issues discussed.

The message Britain is trying to send to all its partners is that the European Community and others ought to realise that Britain is fighting in the Gulf not for its own interests but to uphold United Nations resolutions. All the world, especially oil-importing nations, would benefit from the defeat of Saddam Hussein. European partners and others were therefore obliged to do their bit to help. Britain has reminded them that United Nations resolution 678 "requests all states to provide appropriate support for the actions undertaken" in pursuance of the authorisation to use "all necessary means" to get Iraq out of Kuwait.

Herr Genscher, who cancelled his visit here tomorrow because of a Bundestag debate, will tell Mr Hurd of German concern that Britain seems to be using the current divisions in Europe to slow down European political union. Germany insists that instead common procedures should be drawn up to deal better with similar crises in the future.

Mr Hurd will emphasise to Herr Genscher, as he did to M. Dumas, that Britain sees no role for a permanent British presence in the Gulf after the end of the war, despite the banking of some Gulf rulers for a return to the old days of a British security guarantee. Instead Britain wants the initiatives for regional stability to come from the Arabs. It might be willing to take part in a temporary security force under the aegis of the United Nations, but beyond that would limit its military aid to training, naval visits and exercises.

Mr Hurd will also broach two other subjects he brought up with M. Dumas: the military containment of Iraq after its defeat, and whether sanctions should continue. He will insist there must be a swift resolution of the festering Arab-Israeli conflict, and wants the Europeans to think now about the likely difficulties: who will represent the Palestinians, and how the Israelis can be persuaded to attend.

Although the Americans are taking preliminary soundings, Mr Hurd has been more active than his European partners in planning the postwar scenario. He thinks much will depend on how and when the war ends. But he believes the Europeans must begin to co-ordinate their strategy now.



Cashing in on the war: the top-selling items in the street markets in Amman are \$5 watches showing Saddam Hussein's face and masks of George Bush, Saddam and Yasser Arafat on sale at the British Toy and Hobbies Fair at Earls Court

### ISRAEL

## Arens says 'red line' crossed

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

WITH the threat of a chemical or biological weapons attack growing daily, Israeli newspapers indicated yesterday that the balance is tipping towards an Israeli raid on Iraqi missile sites, which could be accepted and even privately applauded by the Arab members of the American-led coalition.

Officials said President Saddam Hussein was becoming more desperate. "It is logical to think that the more Saddam is pushed against the wall, the less he has to lose and the greater the danger that he will use a more extreme weapon," a spokesman for Moshe Arens, the defence minister, said. Mr Arens said Iraq had "crossed a red line" by preparing to use chemical weapons. "We think we could make a contribution to neutralising the threat," Mr Arens said, saying US successes against the missile sites had been "less than complete". Mr Arens said

that any Israeli action would be co-ordinated with the American Air Force.

Richard Cheney, the US Secretary of Defence, agreed there was a "distinct possibility" that Saddam might fire Scuds armed with chemical weapons. "We do not know for sure that Saddam can put a chemical warhead on a missile," Mr Arens's spokesman said. "But we have to assume that he can." The Israeli press quoted a former French military adviser to Iraq as saying that in addition to Scuds, Iraq might launch a suicide attack by MiG 29 fighters loaded with chemical weapons.

Israel is basking in world approval for its 11-day policy of restraint. "Israel can afford to strike back now," one diplomat said. "It has tremendous international goodwill and understanding behind it."

The newspaper *Yediot Aharonot*

said that if America failed to find and destroy missile launchers soon, Israel had to be ready to act. It was possible that Iraq was launching the al-Abbas missiles, whose range was greater than that of the modified Scud B. Equally, the missile launchers might be underground, with well-camouflaged covering which was only drawn back at launch. The options were: a "well-aimed American nuclear strike on the launching areas", or a ground attack with specific targets.

Defence experts said that if Iraq succeeded in arming Scuds with chemical warheads, a direct Patriot anti-missile hit might help to disperse the chemicals over a wider area. Experts said it would be difficult for anti-missile defences to distinguish one kind of Scud from another.

(This dispatch is subject to allied military reporting restrictions)

## Guerrilla threat to bases in Germany

Bonn — Holy Islamic War, a radical Palestinian group, intends to attack American and British installations in Germany, according to the group's spokesman, Nader Tamimi. In an interview given in Amman and published by the Berlin paper *Der Morgen* yesterday, he said: "We are thinking of an American installation in the neighbourhood of Frankfurt, for example" (Ian Murray writes).

Last week he called on all Muslims to be ready to carry out suicide attacks against Western installations. Seeking to justify the attacks, he said that Western countries had sent their troops to Iraq to attack women and children "only because this Arab country is strong". It was therefore right for the Palestinians to strike back "at those who are responsible for aggression on Iraq".

The German anti-terror squad believes that there are around 1,400 potential Arab terrorists in the country. The counter-intelligence service has reported that a number of Palestinians have gone into hiding in eastern Germany, including members of the extremist People's Front for the Liberation of Palestine—General Command. The group is known to have had close links with the East German Stasi secret police before unification and is thought to have maintained good contacts with former agents.

The sources said that surviving members of Germany's Red Army Faction, who had worked with Palestinian groups, are also prepared to carry out attacks.

### Bank bomb blast

Athens — An American bank and an insurance company here were damaged yesterday by the second terrorist attack in three days, but nobody was hurt. Although responsibility has not been claimed, police believe the bomb and rocket attack was carried out by the November 17 group, which claimed responsibility for a similar incident on Friday. The group said then that it was protesting against "the unprovoked allied attack against the Iraqi people".

### Poll tax plea

The Labour party yesterday called on the government to compel local authorities to exempt all members of the armed forces serving in the Gulf from paying the poll tax. David Blunkett, the party's local government spokesman, said many councils had ignored advice from the environment department that service personnel on Gulf duties should not have to pay.

### University attack

Beirut — Five unidentified gunmen stormed an American University of Beirut agricultural research centre in the village of Hawsh Snaid near Baalbek, in eastern Lebanon yesterday, engaging police guarding the centre in a gun battle that left no injuries but some material damage, police said. Sources in eastern Lebanon believed the attackers belonged to the pro-Iranian Shia fundamentalist Hezbollah (Party of God) which has a large base in Baalbek.

### Audience doubled

BBC *Breakfast News* more than doubled its audience in the three days following the outbreak of hostilities, overtaking TV-am as the most watched early news programme, audience research shows. Its average audience of 800,000 grew to 2.3 million on January 17 and 1.9 million on January 18, compared to TV-am's 2 million and 1.7 million.

### Refuelling protest

Delhi — India confirmed yesterday that it had allowed United States C-141 transport aircraft engaged in the Gulf war to refuel in Bombay. The announcement brought protests from Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) party, which keeps the minority government afloat in parliament. It became clear that only a tight circle of the administration knew about the arrangement.

## New Bonn curbs on 'exporters of death'

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

HANS Neusel, the junior minister in charge of state security, is preparing plans to tap the telephones and check the mail of companies suspected of breaking laws which prohibit the export of armaments. Although he has ruled out the use of the secret service to track down firms breaking the laws, he said yesterday that police, customs officials and the prosecutor's office could be mobilised to help track down firms that were suspected of breaches of the arms export ban.

The German government said yesterday that two more companies were now being investigated for breaking the embargo on arms sales to Iraq, bringing the total so far to 11. The names of 110 German firms suspected of breaking the embargo have been supplied by American and British intelligence. So far German investigators have cleared 25 of them. Although some companies that have been cleared did send goods to Iraq, the investigators have accepted that they did so in good faith, unaware that the goods could be put to military use or were breaching the embargo.

Today Jürgen Möllemann, the economics minister, is to announce more regulations aimed at tightening controls on arms exports, the third time the government has done this since 1989, when it was found that Germany had helped Libya to build a chemical warfare plant at Rabta.

The German Industry Federation is, meanwhile, seeking to set up a joint control of arms exports with the American National Association of Manufacturers and to draft a blueprint for international regulations which would be adopted throughout the EC and by Japan. The federation's president, Heinrich Weiss, has visited Washington to co-ordinate action, and teams of experts from the two organisations are now to draw up recommendations for a reform of the Cocom list. The idea is to extend this to cover not only conventional weapons, but the export of nuclear, biological and chemical technology to the Third World. It is also intended to make it more difficult the purchase of seemingly innocent equipment in different countries, which can be assembled to create a weapon, as happened with the Iraqi "super gun". Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign minister, called yesterday for tougher controls to stop the "exporters and producers of death".

At the same time Edzard Reuter, the head of Daimler-Benz, one



Möllemann: tightening arms export regulations

of the companies named as supplying technology to Iraq, has complained that the government turned a blind eye to such exports during the "first Gulf war" with Iran. He told the news magazine, *Der Spiegel*, that it had been politically acceptable to help Iraq during that war. "Nowhere in Germany is there an economic theme about which there is so much hypocrisy, cowardice and opportunism as arms exports," he complained. He, too, called for EC-wide regulations to control such sales because countries were lacking in morals when it came to selling weapons.

Germany imposed a total ban on selling weapons to the Gulf in 1982.

PARIS NOTEBOOK by John Phillips

## Socialists keep up radical front with less chic

War is taking its toll in the world of Parisian high fashion. Many private buyers and store officials who were invited from America have refused to fly to this week's haute couture shows because of fears of terrorism.

Not a few American fashion journalists were also wary of travelling across the Atlantic for the catwalk parades. *Harpers Bazaar* and *Vogue*, however, were not desperate for volunteers for the perilous assignment, because they have Paris correspondents. An editor from *Vogue* did fly over in the end, despite reports to the contrary. Other magazines decided to play safe.

The Pierre Balmain salon is not taking part in this year's shows, having closed its couture department to focus on ready to wear, perfume and accessories. A spokesman for the designer said his traditional clients from the Gulf failed to fly up to Paris to order custom-made clothes.

Nina Ricci also is missing its wealthy Gulf clientele, who normally account for as much as 60 per cent of business. Ricci temporarily laid off half its seamstresses

last year after the Gulf confrontation began but gradually reinstated them after they staged a demonstration outside the offices of the fashion house.

Invitations were closely checked by security guards when creations by the Italian designer, Giorgio Armani, opened the five days of shows at the Ritz.

Despite war worries, many models could not afford to cancel their engagements. A Givenchy model from New York, Lou Sierra, said: "At least two-thirds of the New York models finally decided to come. On our plane we were the only five people. We weren't scared."

A few hours before the Armani models began their colourful and cheerful numbers, a bomb blew out the ground floor at the offices of the left-wing *Libération* newspaper.

Nobody was hurt in the explosion, which in a rambling note found on the scene was claimed to be linked to the Gulf. But members of the Socialist government, led by the avant-garde Jack Lang, the culture minister, hastened to go on record commiserating about what the French



media described as the first act of Gulf-related terrorism in the country.

The government's response was noticeably lower key when another explosive charge went off outside a hotel for Arab and North African immigrants in front of the main railway station in Marseilles on Sunday. As the war drags on, officials are deeply worried about relations between the millions of Arabs living in France and its community of some 700,000 Jews, the largest in Western Europe. But politicians, looking to their mainly white consti-

tuencies, currently prefer to reserve their sympathies for the trendy newspaper rather than the ethnic minorities.

French television has become dull since the war started. Michel Rocard, the prime minister, has asked stations to desist from showing French air force pilots on television, should any be captured.

Philippe Séguin, a leading opposition politician, yesterday called on the government to set up a French equivalent of CNN to break the English language monopoly in non-stop cable news.

The private Channel 5 is adapting to the grave national mood by showing fewer pornographic films, while the *Bébé Show*, France's popular equivalent of *Spitting Image*, is not resuming its satirical programmes. Programmes are believed to feel the sketches — President Mitterrand is portrayed as a puppet frog calling himself Dieu — are inappropriate while the Elysée Palace seeks to drum up support for the war effort.

Paris fashions, page 16



By MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

Mr Heseltine said that government pollution control experts would probably follow, headed by Captain Hamish McLeod, of the transport department's marine pollution control unit and that today Britain would be urging the European Community to send in

The Natural Environment Research Council was bringing together the available information on marine life in the Gulf, and the Nature Conservancy Council was co-ordinating the many offers of help that had been received from voluntary organisations. He added that Britain was considering how to help with the longer term problems of cleaning and restoring the habitats and human settlements affected. Tomorrow Mr

Mr Heseltine told MPs in a statement: "I shall calling then for all OECD members to respond to this disaster and to take action according to their experience, equipment and skills to offer help to the Gulf states".

Asked if he would be particularly seeking contributions from those EC countries recently accused of being laggards in their help with the allied war effort, he said: "There are implications for us and Europe in the growing feeling in the United States that a disproportionate burden is being carried on the other side of the Atlantic."

Mr Heseltine will go further at the meeting, and will suggest the setting up of permanent international machinery to respond to global environmental disasters. His initial idea is that there should at least be international registers setting out all the available expertise and available facilities on which affected nations could draw in times of crisis.

● The divisions in the Labour party over the Gulf war manifested themselves again in the Commons yesterday when some MPs sought to blame the allies for the oil pollution in the Gulf (Our Parliamentary Staff writes).

After listening to Mr Hesehine's statement, Tony Benn (Chesterfield, Lab), and Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow, Lab) attacked government policy.

Mr Benn said that there had been warnings about what would happen. It was not convincing that when allied warplanes destroyed installations it was called a military triumph and when the oil weapon was used it was called environmental terrorism.

**Marv Ann Sieghart, page 12**



By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TORY opponents of a black prospective parliamentary candidate were accused yesterday of being members of the "Alf Garnett" tendency.

A group formed to support the black barrister's struggle to remain as Conservative candidate for Cheltenham accused their opponents of causing the town to be portrayed as racist.

The divisions within the local association over the selection of John Taylor as candidate will deepen during the next 12 days as both sides seek to gather support before a special meeting next month that will reconsider the decision. The selection of Mr Taylor, a local councillor in Birm-

ingham, has split Tories in the marginal seat and the dispute has the potential to cause the party serious embarrassment.

At the launch yesterday of a Tories for Taylor group, a local councillor said that in the fog of innuendo, it had been forgotten that Mr Taylor was an excellent candidate. Rob Wilson, a member of the executive of the local

Conservative association, said: "We find it unacceptable to be considered a racist town. The Alf Garnett tendency does exist in Cheltenham, but we do not believe they represent the majority view". The association's officers have said that they will resign if Mr Taylor is deselected.

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LORD Griffiths, the former head of Margaret Thatcher's Downing Street policy unit, is expected to be appointed tomorrow as the new chairman of the most influential Conservative think tank in a move that will hearten the Thatcherite wing of the party.

A meeting of the board of the Centre for Policy Studies is almost certain to approve the appointment of the former City University economist in succession to Lord Thomas of Swynerton, the historian, who has held the post since 1979.

The decision will bring to an end several weeks of wrangling over the future of the centre, which was jointly founded by Mrs Thatcher and Lord Joseph in 1974, and enjoyed great influence over Tory policy throughout the Thatcher

The resignation of Lord Thomas, an ardent pro-European, was partly due to differences within the centre over its stance towards the European Community. The struggle for the succession, in which Mrs

Thatcher has been directly involved, has been seen by insiders as part of the wider battle for the soul of the Tory party in the wake of her fall from power. Although she initially suggested that Lord Joseph should take over as chairman, she is said to be happy with the outcome.

Lord Griffiths, who as Professor Brian Griffiths headed the Downing Street unit for five years and was ennobled in the resignation honours, is a committed free-marketeer and evan-

gical Christian. He was an architect of the government's radical reforms of education and broadcasting, pressing the case for giving the consumer more power in the public services. On economics, he holds monetarist views and, like Sir Alan Walters, Mrs Thatcher's former economics adviser, he was doubtful of the benefits of British membership of the European exchange-rate mechanism.

However, his appointment does not mean that the centre is about to become a Thatcherite enclave committed to preserving the memory of the former prime minister. Lord Griffiths and David Willetts, the director of studies at the centre, have agreed with Mrs Thatcher that its main task must be to retain its historically close links with 10 Downing Street and to pioneer proposals for John Major's first manifesto as The Centre's new prime minister has decided to focus her attention on international affairs and will pursue this agenda through the proposed Thatcher foundation.

One insider at the policy studies centre said: "She has put her energies into the foundation and she will not be so closely involved with us. The Thatcher foundation is her vehicle and the centre will serve John Major and help his government with workable ideas for the next manifesto and beyond."

Lord Griffiths appointment to the unpaid role of chairman will probably help the centre to resolve some of its internal differences over Europe.

**THE government is considering how to help buyouts of trust ports by management and employees. Malcolm Rifkind, transport secretary, said in the Commons yesterday during second reading of the Ports bill.**

The bill allows the 100 or more trust ports to opt for privatisation if they wish and the government to insist on privatisation for the largest 14, with an annual turnover of more than £5 million, after two years. The 14 largest ports are

**Parliament today**  
Commons (2.30): Question  
Employment; prime minister  
Motions on revenue-suppo

Lords (2.30): Planning and Compensation bill, committee stage continued.

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## Schools 'miss out on opportunities of local management'

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNORS and head-teachers of primary schools are failing to take advantage of the opportunities presented by local management, the Audit Commission says today. Budgets at their discretion vary from £80 to more than £300 per pupil.

Many primary schools already have responsibility for their own budgets, and all will have within three years. The commission says that the sums involved, which often exceed £500,000 a year, represent a huge responsibility but also an opportunity to further a school's effectiveness.

A report compiled over two years says that governors should consider more aggressive recruitment of pupils and more active fund-raising. Voluntary contributions range from £10 to £100 per pupil.

The report, *Management within primary schools*, also notes wide variations in funding from education authorities. Although almost half of the schools in the survey received between £1,000 and £1,150 a pupil, some had as little as £800 and others as much as £1,600. Most is earmarked for specific purposes, the remainder is spent at the school's discretion.

The commission suggests the pooling of resources among neighbouring schools and even the relocation of premises. It recommends governors to draw up development plans to try to spend money more effectively. Howard Davies, the controller of

audit, said yesterday: "Many governors are assuming that all their budget is essentially fixed and pre-spent, and they are there in a care and maintenance role. In fact, there are some quite big changes that can be made and have been made."

Redistributing existing budgets would provide the greatest source of extra funds, with staffing decisions offering most flexibility. A reasonable starting point, the report says, would be to have average classes of 30 pupils. Some schools could, however, make more use of unqualified assistants in larger classes, allowing specialist reading coaches to be employed, for example.

The commission produced its report after analysing questionnaires completed by 224 headteachers, visiting 54 of their schools and examining budget allocations by 21 counties, 15 metropolitan districts and 12 outer London boroughs. The counties had the lowest sums available for allocation by governors, although their overall school budgets were close to those in metropolitan districts.

The report stresses that the full benefits of local management will be realised only if schools have clear objectives and thorough evaluation of any changes. Mr Davies said: "The ultimate point of delegating budgets is to produce more effective education. Unless people make explicit choices and monitor the results, how are we going

to know whether it does that or not?" The commission will now compare notes for the first time with the schools inspectorate to try to marry its management findings with the inspectors' quality judgments to try to produce a model of a cost-effective school.

Professor Graeme Davies, vice-chancellor of Liverpool university, was confirmed yesterday as the next chief executive of the Universities Funding Council, succeeding Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, who retires at the end of March. Although a date is yet to be set for Mr Davies to take up the post, the council has decided to involve him in the allocation of student numbers for the next four years, a process that will be complete before Sir Peter's departure.

Mr Davies, a 53-year-old New Zealander who has been a vice-chancellor for only four years, was to have chaired the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals from June onwards. A new election will be held to find a replacement.



Living doll: a secretary from Bournemouth was unveiled yesterday as the real-life Barbie at the Earls Court international toy fair. Hayley Spicer, aged 24, picked from 4,000 hopefuls, sees Barbie as caring and fun-loving, but not a bimbo.

## Labour aims to enforce youth work training

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TRAINING for all young people entering work would be made compulsory under a future Labour government, the Labour party said yesterday.

The statement by Tony Blair, shadow employment secretary, takes Labour policy further than it has gone before in this area. In last year's policy review document, Labour said it would consider making it unlawful for young people to go into work without any training, as it is in a number of Britain's competitor countries.

In a speech in London yesterday, however, Mr Blair said for the first time that Labour had decided that once in government it would require all 16 to 19-year-olds to be trained. The proposal is likely to be examined warily by employers and was opposed yesterday by the government.

Some ministers are, however, privately in favour of introducing some form of compulsory training to improve Britain's skills base, and there is now within Whitehall an argument about whether that is the right course for a Conservative government to pursue. About 100,000 young people leave school each year and go into work without any training. Labour believes that would be unthinkable in many other countries.

Mr Blair said that Labour had consulted with many bodies engaged in training and the near-consensus was that the government's entirely voluntary approach to training was defective. He said: "If we are to catch up, we must be prepared to put training for 16 to 19-year-olds within a proper legislative framework" which would guarantee for each school leaver entering work an "entitlement to learn".

Mr Blair said that policy would differ sharply from the government's Youth Training Scheme, since it would be based on qualifications gained, not time served, the qualifications would be certified to a proper standard and it would place an obligation on employers to train properly.

## Huntsman denies assault

A woman hunt saboteur was hit across the face by a hunt master as she tried to distract his hounds, Cardiff crown court was told yesterday. Helena Ryan, aged 27, claimed that Gareth Morgan, master of the Pentrych hunt, hit her with his whip, severely bruising her face, during a fox hunt at Tonyrefail, Mid Glamorgan, last February.

Mr Morgan, aged 49, of Holdings Road, Pentrych, denies assaulting Miss Ryan, causing her actual bodily harm.

The trial continues today.

## GP struck off

Matthew Robinson, a 59-year-old GP in Birmingham, was struck off the medical register yesterday after the General Medical Council's professional conduct committee found him guilty of serious misconduct in ignoring five requests to visit a dying cancer patient.

## Subsidy claim

West Oxfordshire district council yesterday won leave to take the government to the High Court over £400,000, which, it says, was wrongly deducted from its housing subsidy due to a rules drafting error.

## Rape guidance

The anonymity of rape case victims should extend to husbands in cases of marital rape, Sir Patrick Mayhew, QC, the Attorney-General, said yesterday. His guidance, in answer to a parliamentary question, follows a series of prosecutions for marital rape.

## Lottery's chance of success is doubted

By RAY CLANCY

A LOTTERY being launched with the promise that some of its proceeds will go to arts, sports and medical organisations is unlikely to attract enough support, it was said yesterday.

UK Charity Lotteries plans to start the lottery in London next month and says that up to 200 charities will receive 25 per cent of its revenue up to £12 million in the first three months. It will sell tickets in newsagents, garages and shops and promises prizes from £1 to £10,000. Organisations that will benefit include the London Symphony Orchestra, the Cheltenham Arts Festival, and Action Research for the Crippled Child.

However, the rival Lottery Promotions Company, which was set up to campaign for a national government-run lottery to benefit the arts, sport and the environment, cast doubt on the venture. Denis Vaughan, secretary, said: "This scheme is not guaranteed success because it will be unable to maintain a sufficient level of consumer interest. The only way that can be done is through a single national lottery with attractive prizes, minimal running costs and guarantees to fund charities."

Golden Grid, the parent company of UK Charity Lotteries, suspended its first venture, Skilball, after five months. UK Charity Lotteries said that unlike that game, the lottery required no skill and had a good chance of success.

## Church guide to French customs

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

CHURCH of England members living in France should take communion in a French Roman Catholic church only after seeking the priest's approval, a report says today.

At French Catholic churches, bishops insist that "eucharistic hospitality cannot be habitual". Anglicans in France are, however, welcome to share in the Lord's Supper in reformation churches.

Launching the guidelines at Church House in Westminster, Canon Roger Greenacre, former chaplain of the Anglican church in Paris, said he wished to see Christian dimension brought into twinnings and exchange visits.

In the report, leading Anglican and Catholic churchmen offer guidelines to enable visitors to "use all available opportunities to worship together while respecting those whose discipline may differ from their own."

Suzanne Martineau, from Poitiers, an expert on Anglican-Catholic relations, said many French Catholics were perplexed by Anglicanism. "Any time I speak on Anglicanism in France I have to say it is not orthodox, it is not Protestant, it is not Catholic, it is something apart from these. They put Anglicans under the Protestant umbrella."

*Twinnings and Exchanges: Guidelines proposed by the Anglican-Roman Catholic Committees of France and England* (Church House Bookshop, Great Smith St, London SW1; £1.95)

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COMMERCIAL UNION



# Solicitors losing jobs across the board as recession bites

KAREN MITCHELL says she will never forget the telephone call she received from a solicitor recently "just as he was about to go under".

"He was a probate practitioner in Sussex, handling the winding up of some 28 estates," said Ms Mitchell, of the Association of Sole Practitioners. "But there was no money in them. In each case, he had to sell the property to recoup his own fees. But in the present climate he couldn't sell any of the properties. The bank was chasing him hard and saying they couldn't hold him up any longer."

The example shows how the economic recession is affecting solicitors. The legal profession is facing redundancies across the board for the first time since the recession of ten years ago.

While insolvency work and litigation are burgeoning, firms throughout England and Wales that rely on commercial property work are laying off staff. In the City of London, staff have been shed from such firms as D.J.

Freeman, McKenna & Co, Richards Butler, Speechly Bircham and Titmuss Sainer & Webb.

Michael Chambers, a legal recruitment consultant, says: "For the first time that I can remember, newly qualified solicitors have been faced with a virtual shutdown of the job market in London among big commercial firms. They may find a vacancy doing matrimonial work with a two-partner firm in Ealing, but that's not what they want."

A redundancy help-line set up by the Young Solicitors' Group of the Law Society and manned by volunteers has had a sixfold increase in calls since it was set up in December 1989. Since last September there have been about 300 calls.

Geraldine McCall, who chairs the group, said: "It is not just young solicitors. Very often the most distraught are the much older ones who have never done anything else. The prospect of retraining for them is quite frightening." The redundancies

Some heard by finding their parking space gone. Lawyers do not always thrive in times of misfortune, as Frances Gibb reports

are at all sizes of firms, with a concentration in the South-East. Some people heard the news by "coming in and finding their parking space gone" or being told to pack their things in a cardboard box by the end of the afternoon, she said.

At such times, the Bar is comfortably immune. Christopher Frazer, of the Young Barristers' Group, said: "The commercial bar may be suffering a little. But in my field, people keep on committing offences and keep on getting divorced."

The one-man and small firms of solicitors are being hit hardest by the slump. "One-man firms who only did conveyancing are suicidal," Ms Mitchell said. "They are absolutely desperate. In one case, a solicitor had sacked all

his three secretarial staff and now just had someone part-time. He was thinking of setting up at home - his bank would not support him any longer."

Some people believe that small firms of two to four partners are the most vulnerable because they are expected to provide the all-round service of larger firms without the same resources. "One-man and small firms have high rents, high interest rates and their high indemnity insurance premiums, and with general economic pressure, people don't want to pay their legal fees," Ms Mitchell said. "It's the same for those doing legal aid, where rates haven't kept up with inflation. And there's a physical limit to the work one man can do in a day."

Mr Chambers said the recession has come at a time when many small firms "are already in poor shape, having suffered two years without much residential conveyancing". Many larger firms which "had adjusted to a seemingly never-ending period of prosperity by taking on large numbers of new staff and moving to grand new offices... now find themselves overstaffed, with surplus space, high rents and a falling fee-income".

The slump is particularly hard on articulated clerks, or trainee solicitors. From last summer, concern began to mount over reports of firms withdrawing offers of articles from students just approaching their final examinations and due to start work.

A spokesman for the Law Society's trainee solicitors' group, representing 20,000 trainees or newly qualified solicitors in England and Wales, said: "These are offers that firms had made to students two years ago. And then just before they are due to qualify, the offer is withdrawn." At the same time, according to Sally

Marsden, who chairs the group, firms are taking a far less benevolent attitude to students whose marks do not meet expectations.

Concern about their plight led to the setting up of a working party under Roger Jones, a Cardiff solicitor. He said: "It is purely a rough guess, but I estimate that as many as 250 firms have reneged on offers of articles. Frequent is the wrong word, but it is not unusual for firms in severe financial problems, mostly medium-sized firms, to decide they can no longer afford their commitment."

The working party considered sanctions, including calling partners of the firms to Chancery Lane to account for their actions, but that was ruled out as impracticable. "It became clear firms were in genuine difficulties. If they had already asked partners to leave, and made salaried staff redundant, sanctions would be ineffective." The only other option might have been for articulated clerks to sue for breach of contract - "not a very fine way to start a

legal career". Instead, the working party will tackle the issue under plans now being drawn up for the licensing of firms who offer articles. When the licensing system is in force, firms will be expected to follow good practice guidelines and licences will be revoked as a last sanction.

Other measures are in hand to mitigate the worst effects of the recession. The Young Solicitors' Group is holding a survey to assess the demand for retraining redundant solicitors and plans to approach the Law Society to see if it will take a lead on retraining.

Every college, polytechnic and university is being contacted to see if it has a course that can be used for such retraining. "The main area people want is family law," Ms McCall said.

All is not gloom. People will always need lawyers, Mr Chambers says, even if they are required to move into new areas of work.

Leading article, page 13  
Law report, page 28  
Times law awards, page 29

## Asian PC wins £20,000 for discrimination within force

By CRAIG SETON

AN ASIAN police constable yesterday accepted a record £20,000 compensation from Nottinghamshire police for unlawful racial discrimination that he suffered within the force blocking his ambition to become a detective.

PC Surinder Singh, aged 34, is also, finally, to be transferred to the force's CID as soon as an acceptable post is available, under the terms of a settlement of his three-year fight for equal treatment announced at an industrial tribunal in Nottingham yesterday.

PC Singh said afterwards that he was delighted with the award and pledged to stay with Nottinghamshire police. The compensation is the most to be paid for racial discrimination as a result of an industrial tribunal hearing. It is part of a total of £35,000 that Nottinghamshire police has agreed to pay as a result of the case. Two Asian sergeants who also suffered racial discrimination yesterday accepted £5,000 compensation each. One of them, it was disclosed, was last week finally commended by the force for an arrest made five years ago. A further £5,000 will be paid to the Commission for Racial Equality for its costs in backing PC

Singh. The constable, a university graduate who joined the force ten years ago, was the first serving police officer to allege racial discrimination at an industrial tribunal. The hearing lasted 82 days, during which more than 60 fellow officers gave evidence against him.

The tribunal found that PC Singh had been subjected to racial discrimination when he took part in a scheme to test his suitability for the CID, leading to his rejection. The tribunal said that his every mistake had been picked on and that racist slang permeated most levels of the force.

Yesterday's settlement was announced after last-minute talks between the force and solicitors for the Asian officers. It is understood that Nottinghamshire police initially offered PC Singh £8,400, the most that the tribunal could have awarded for a single act of discrimination. His solicitors had been prepared, if the planned hearing had proceeded, to argue that he should receive up to that amount for each of 13 specific acts of unlawful discrimination suffered.

PC Singh, who is based in Nottingham, said yesterday: "I am absolutely delighted. It has been a long, difficult and awkward haul, but it has been worth it. I have always felt that what happened was out of order and it needed addressing, not just for myself, but for future problems that ethnic people might find in this job."

Asked whether he could still work with officers who had discriminated against him, PC Singh said: "You cannot hold grudges for ever. You have to look to the future. I have already had some contact with CID and I do not think it will be too difficult."

He believed that attitudes within the force were already changing for the better.

It was also disclosed yesterday that Sergeant Satinder Sharma, who gets £5,000, has received a commendation within the past few days from Dan Crompton, the chief constable, for arresting an important suspect in 1985. Five other officers involved in the incident received commendations in 1986, but the sergeant was not mentioned in a report of the affair.

Sergeant Anil Patani, another officer discriminated against and who received £5,000, is to be promoted to acting inspector.

David Potter, PC Singh's solicitor, said yesterday: "The settlement will send a strong and important message to all that racial discrimination has no place in a modern society, let alone a police force."

Colin Bailey, deputy chief constable of Nottinghamshire, said that the chief constable had made it clear that the force would act to ensure that no such discrimination occurred again.

## Loyalist terrorists admit killing Catholic

THERE were renewed calls yesterday for the Ulster Defence Association, the largest and only legal paramilitary organisation in Northern Ireland, to be proscribed after its illegal offshoot, the Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF), admitted that its members killed a 44-year-old Roman Catholic, Sean Rafferty, in the kitchen of his north Belfast home on Sunday night.

The UFF, known for years to be "a flag of convenience" under which UDA men commit sectarian killings, said Mr Rafferty was linked with the IRA, a claim which was dismissed by security sources and the victim's family.

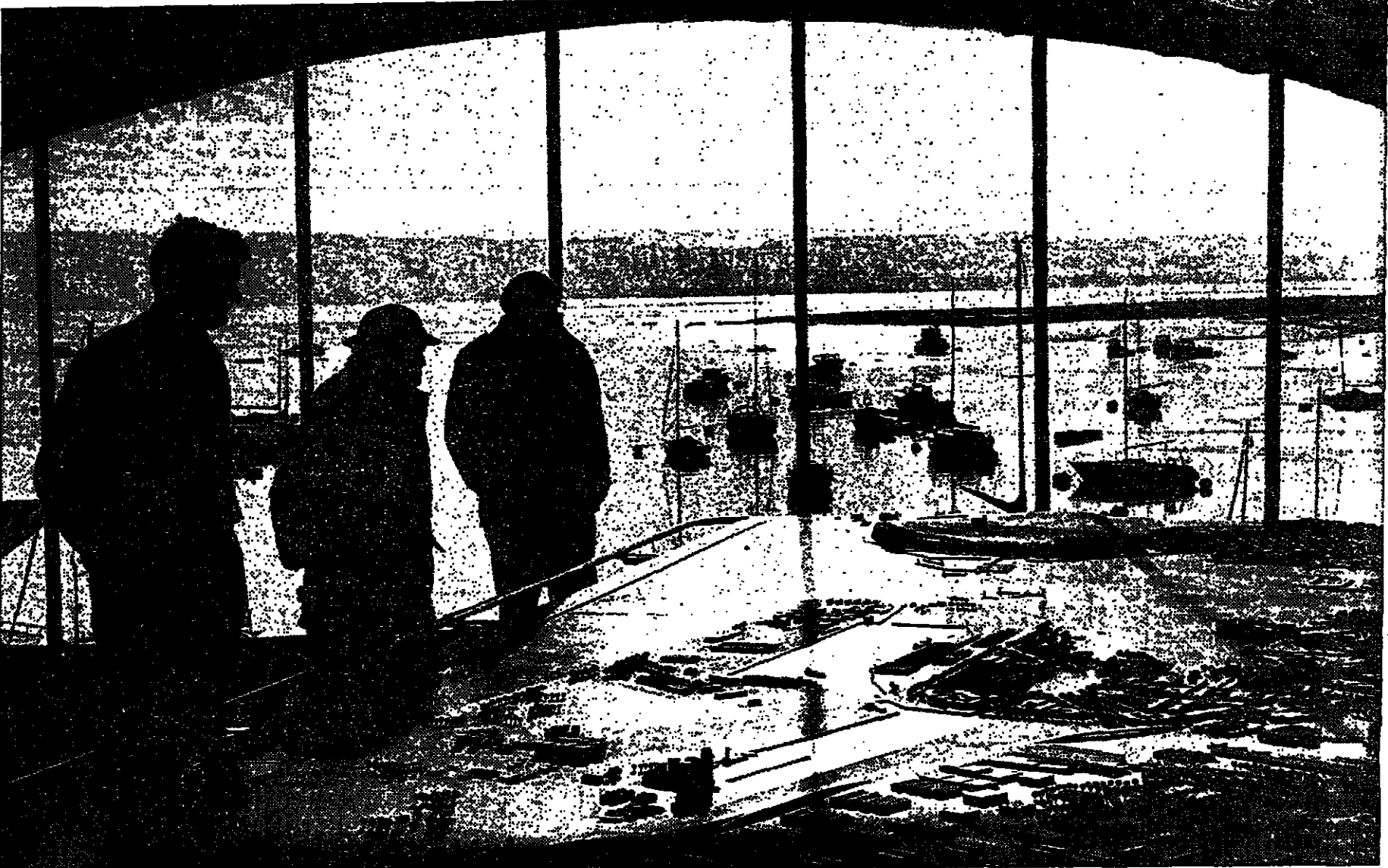
The UFF made a similar claim about Mr Rafferty's near neighbour, Dermot McGuinness, when they shot him dead three months ago only about 150 yards from the scene of Sunday evening's murder.

Security sources say both victims were known to be respectable and hard-working family men unconnected with any illegal organisations. They are seen to have died purely because they lived in a Catholic neighbourhood easily reached from the Loyalist Shankill district, from where the UFF mainly operates.

Among those calling for the UDA, which encompasses the UFF, to be banned was Mr Seamus Close, the Alliance party spokesman. "You cannot have organisations killing people and yet appearing on the streets as being legal and perfectly honest upright citizens," he said.

Previous calls for the UDA to be proscribed have gone unheeded by successive governments, and there is no indication that the Northern Ireland Office is considering any change in its policy of tolerating, with distaste, the open public existence of the UDA.

Mr Rafferty is the third person to be murdered by terrorists in Northern Ireland this month. Since the troubles began more than 20 years ago 547 people have been killed in a two-mile square area of north Belfast.



Looking ahead: a planners' model of the regenerated Cardiff docklands of the next century on show at a visitors' centre overlooking Cardiff Bay. The Cardiff Bay Development Corporation, which has opened the centre, aims to build 6,000 new homes on the 2,700-acre waterfront site, now largely derelict. There are also plans to build a barrage, providing a man-made lake. It is hoped that 30,000 jobs will be created. The corporation said its aim was to make the area internationally famous again

## A Jezebel due for a luxury facelift

By JOHN SHAW

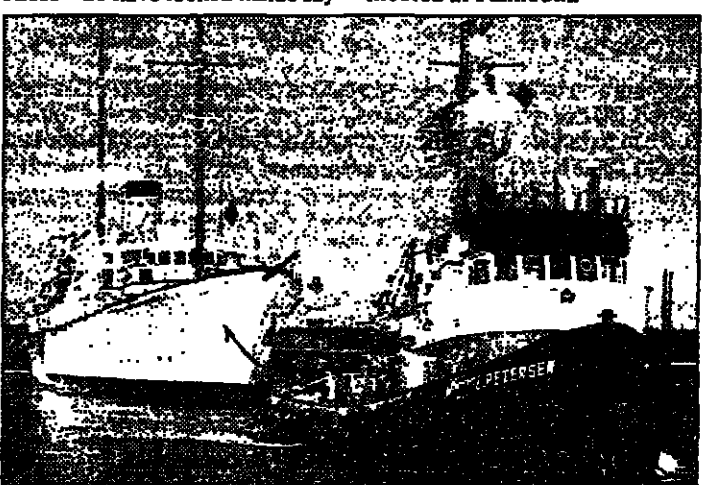
A LUXURY motor yacht turned heads when she arrived for a refit at Lowestoft, Suffolk, yesterday.

The town's bascule bridge was raised to enable the 270ft-Jezebel to enter the inner harbour, her elegant lines redolent of 1930s opulence. She belongs to John Paul Getty, the oil multi-millionaire.

Roger Klynne, of Klynne Marine, whose tug brought her in after she was towed from Cornwall, was lyrical: "She is fantastic. She has beautiful lines and great character. Those who have looked inside say

she is like a palace. Everything is original. That makes her unique."

Jezebel was built in Germany in the early 1930s, and her lavish interior reflects the style of the period. Her first owner was American, but after passing through several hands she was found in a dilapidated state in the Greek islands by Robert Stigwood, the show business impresario, who is reputed to have spent £12 million on restoration. Mr Getty bought her in 1987, and for the past few years she has been moored at Falmouth.



Paint job: the motor yacht Jezebel, which belongs to John Paul Getty, being towed into Lowestoft yesterday for a refit

## Pan Am security 'took second place'

By KERRY GILL

PAN AM was more concerned with getting its aircraft off the ground on time than with security before the Lockerbie disaster, the enquiry was told yesterday.

Fred Ford, a former Pan Am executive, said he was asked to set up the company's Alert security subsidiary in 1986, more than two years before the terrorist bombing in which 270 people died. However, the company was launched before anti-terrorist recommendations requested from an Israeli security firm had been delivered.

"This did not allow adequate time for all things promised to passengers to be implemented. In my opinion clearly on-time performance was the top priority," he said.

After writing a memorandum expressing his concerns, Mr Ford was removed from his post and, four months later, his contract was not renewed.

He said Alert was set up because advance ticket sales had been poor because of terrorism threats. It was to be funded by a \$5 surcharge on transatlantic tickets. Pan Am issued a statement saying that security was its first priority as part of the publicity.

At the public launch, dogs with jackets bearing the Alert logo were paraded at JFK airport by uniformed officers, giving the impression that they had some

official function. However, Mr Ford said: "They were not sniffer dogs. They had been released from a kennel in New York." Eighty per cent of Alert's staff were existing security staff in new uniforms, he added.

In his memorandum Mr Ford had said that if Pan Am suffered a terrorist attack and an investigation showed the airline was not providing the security cover it had advertised it would "in the very least" be embarrassed.

Mr Ford said he visited Heathrow and Frankfurt airports with Harry Pizer, Pan Am's head of corporate security. "He implied that the continued support of the Israeli group was probably not in my best interest. The tone of the conversation was that the Alert programme had been in operation for 45 days, load factors were up and I had accomplished the basis of my mission," Mr Ford said.

Paul Channon, transport secretary at the time of the disaster, will not give evidence to the Dumfries enquiry. Jim Swire, whose daughter died in the bombing, had cited Mr Channon but yesterday indicated that the former minister would not attend and had been granted exemption by the House of Commons. Dr Swire has also called for Margaret Thatcher to give evidence.

The enquiry continues today.

## Disabled boy wins £790,000

A boy left with severe physical disabilities after medical errors at birth was yesterday awarded £790,000. Mr Justice Judge, sitting at Leeds, approved the settlement to Thomas Canham, aged nine, and praised his parents for their care and devotion.

The court was told that Thomas, of Bradford, West Yorkshire, was starved of oxygen during labour at Airedale hospital, Keighley, West Yorkshire, in November 1981. Airedale health authority admitted liability in 1989 and damages were agreed.

Mr Robin Stewart, QC, for the Canhams, said that Thomas was a boy of normal intelligence in a catastrophically disabled body. He could not co-ordinate his movements, was unlikely to walk and would always depend on others.

## Beach health fear

Children bathing off Blackpool beach are five times more likely than others to become ill because of sewage-contaminated seawater, Louise Ellman, leader of Lancashire county council, said yesterday. She was speaking after an epidemiological survey of 700 child bathers there confirmed a link between their bathing and vomiting, diarrhoea and fever.

## Autosub monitors

Miniature automatic submarines that monitor changes in ocean temperatures are being planned to help to determine climate changes, the Natural Environment Research Council said yesterday. The project is part of the UN-backed World Ocean Circulation Experiment, in which the council is playing a leading part.

## Teacher's victory

David Gatehouse, former music director of Stowe school, Buckinghamshire, yesterday accepted a £19,000 payment and dropped an industrial tribunal case after the school admitted that he had been unfairly dismissed last August.

## Murderer jailed

Brian Murdy, aged 20, of Newcastle upon Tyne, was jailed for life by the city's crown court yesterday for stabbing and strangling Ann Davison, aged 31. He admitted murder.

## BT gives parents protection against big 'chatline' bills

By DAVID YOUNG

BRITAIN'S 23 million telephone subscribers are to be able to block unauthorised dialling of premium-rate services such as "chatlines".

The new service will appeal to parents who fear large bills for chatline calls made by their children at up to 44p a minute, and to companies that want to prevent misuse of office telephones. One subscriber received a £20,000 bill after unauthorised use of his telephone.

British Telecom is also stepping up action to reduce the

estimated 25 million malicious calls made each year, by improving the means of tracing those responsible.

From Friday, subscribers on digital exchanges can apply to have all calls to premium-rate services blocked. Customers can expect to wait about a week for BT to carry out their request, after which calls to the services will result in the unobtainable tone. The cost of providing the block will come from a 1p-a-minute levy imposed on the operators of the services.

The announcement was wel-

comed by Sir Bryan Carsberg, director general of the telecommunications watchdog Ofel. "I am delighted that British Telecom has responded positively to my call for a call-barring scheme on premium-rate services that is free of charge," he said.

"My primary concern has always been that, if they wish, customers should be protected from high bills brought about through unauthorised use of their telephones. I consider it essential that customers should benefit as soon as possible from advances in technology and that, in this case,

they should not be charged for having a basic level of control over their bills."

About half of BT's customers will be the first to benefit, but by 1995 everyone will be able to apply for service. BT said that the service would "put the customer in charge".

New procedures and equipment will make it easier to trace the source of malicious calls, BT says. It has calculated that 70 per cent of malicious calls can now be traced compared with almost none only ten years ago.

The company is also concerned

about sales of equipment that is advertised as being able to intercept calls and tell the subscribers the source. BT says that the devices, which cost about £150, are little more than an answering machine that provides a digital read-out of the caller's number after asking him to key it into his telephone.

Few telephones can be connected to the devices, which do not have BT safety approval. Claims being made by the companies advertising the equipment have been sent to Ofel for investigation.



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# Soviet troops storm Lithuanian customs posts in terror drive

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN VILNIUS

SOVIET security forces have tightened their grip on Lithuania by raiding two customs posts, intimidating and beating officers.

The attack on two posts marking the border with Belorussia exacerbated the apprehension that is growing in Vilnius, the capital of the Baltic republic, ahead of this Friday, when a Kremlin decree calling for joint patrols by the army and the police all over the Soviet Union comes into force.

In one of the raids on the customs posts, security troops wearing the "black beret" uniform of paramilitary police forced the Lithuanian officers to lie on the ground, beat one of them on the head with a truncheon and fired shots into the air before smashing up the office.

It was the latest in a series of violent actions by Moscow-controlled security forces that are

intended to show that they, and not the small police force which is loyal to the Vilnius government, are in effective control of the republic.

Lithuanians fear that Moscow, taken aback by Western reaction to the 14 deaths during the seizure of the Vilnius television tower two weeks ago, has decided instead to resort to continual beatings and raids that are intended to wear the republic down without causing outrage in the West.

The prospect of joint patrols may bring to a head the issue of who has the right to bear arms in Lithuania, where most of the local police are loyal to the independent state which was proclaimed last March, while Moscow's security forces regard the independence of Lithuania as both fictitious and unconstitutional.

In practical terms, residents fear

that the patrols could make it virtually impossible to walk the streets at night, at least for young men who risk being press-ganged into the army even if they are not eligible for military service.

Vytautas Landsbergis, the president of Lithuania, who has not left the heavily barricaded parliament building since the bloody events of January 13, told legislators: "If this decree is implemented, it will amount to military intervention, to creeping occupation."

Subsequently, the Lithuanian parliament passed a resolution condemning "decisions that violate human rights and lead towards military dictatorship". It stated that any extension to Vilnius of the new Kremlin policy would amount to "an act of aggression by the Soviet Union against Lithuania".

It reiterated the primacy of Lithuanian law, called for the withdrawal of Soviet security forces, as well as for the restitution of property which they have seized in recent operations, and urged the international community to show solidarity with the embattled people of Lithuania.

As the deputies worked stolidly through their parliamentary business, young Vilnius men armed with crude shotguns lounged on the beds where they had been sleeping in the parliament building for the past two weeks, ready to resist any attack by Soviet security forces.

Outside the building, a group of 30 or so women stood in the falling snow, singing hymns to the Virgin Mary at a makeshift shrine which forms part of the concrete wall that government supporters have built to protect their independent parliament.

## Poles to cut 'hopeless projects'

FROM PAT COZA IN WARSAW

POLAND'S new prime minister, Jan Krzysztof Bielecki, said yesterday the country expects to negotiate successfully a significant reduction of its huge \$46.6 billion (\$24.5 billion) debt within the next three months and will not finance "hopeless projects" as it moves to a market-oriented economy.

Mr Bielecki, in his first press conference since taking office on January 4, outlined a list of high priority projects for the coming months. They include debt reduction, privatisation of small businesses, de-monopolising the media, and creating a policy to support agriculture.

The Solidarity economist promised a tight budgetary ship, even if that means closing some of the biggest enterprises staying afloat only on government subsidies.

He said parliament will be busy with new legislation on foreign investments, financing of housing opportunities, the environment and pensions, while his office "will implement a great deal of executive ordinances" to get the wheels moving.

Although he knows he needs popular support to carry out his programme, the prime minister declared: "We will not shun difficult decisions."

Mr Bielecki hoped Poland would sign agreements with its creditors for a significant reduction of its debt burden by late March or early April. Last year Poland got a one-year reprieve from paying interest on its debts until March 1991. The government has asked that 80 per cent of its debt be forgiven, but the figure is expected to be closer to one-third or 40 per cent.

Figures yesterday showed more than 40 per cent of Polish enterprises have improved their financial picture in the past month due to price rises.



Crossed wires: a Lithuanian volunteer strengthening strands of barbed wire atop the wall protecting Kaunas radio, the largest independent broadcasting station in western Lithuania. It is being defended by a volunteer force recruited in the city

## East German diehards feel safe to wallow in nostalgia

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN BERLIN

THERE was a brief embarrassed attempt at the *Internationale*. Many of the demonstrators wore the navy mackintosh which was the erstwhile uniform of East Germany's communist party functionaries and a speaker was trying to whip up support for a general strike.

"Now that would be nice," said one of the mackintosh figures, "if only we still had jobs to strike from."

Of the 40,000 protesters gathered in east Berlin at the weekend to demonstrate against the "capitalist oil war", a good half seemed to be former diplomats, functionaries and journalists taking an agreeable saunter down memory lane back to the days when peace demonstrations — directed at the Americans naturally — were part of the political calendar.

East Germany's old communists are in their element once again. After a year in the social wilderness, humiliated by the revelations of corruption and incompetence in the old regime and rendered obsolete by unity, they have hauled out their tattered red flags and gathered the remaining shreds of their dignity for the last battle.

With the German Democratic Republic gone and unlamented by the majority of the population, the diehards now feel safe to wallow in nostalgia for the good old days of state socialism. The sentiments unleashed by the Gulf protests were compounded at the weekend by the gathering of the faithful at the Party of Democratic Socialism's conference. The thoroughly renamed, half reformed communists' slogan ought to be "PDS members still drive Trabis". The car park presented the antiquated sight of rows of baby blue, lime green and chewing-gum-fawn cars. In the ranks of the marxist faithful it is still clearly considered a heresy to join the hordes of east Germans buying secondhand Volkswagens and Mercedes.

Inside the party squabbled over whether its future lay in being a hard-line, trade union-led organisation or a rainbow mixture of greens, anarchists and other politically homeless. While stalls of GDR memorabilia did a roaring trade, the leader Gregor Gysi, a miniature Napoleon who has single-handedly resurrected the personality cult on the German

left, was being mobbed by younger members for autographs and kisses.

In his speech he warned the party not to suppress its own biography. "If we do not examine our own history others will do it for us, especially those who never liked us much anyway." But his words fell on deaf ears these days.

Despite initial proclamations that the party would acknowledge its responsibility as a successor for the disaster caused by the old communists, most members are nettled that they should be left to carry the burden of responsibility and prefer to wallow in the comforting thought that things were not really so bad then as has been claimed since. It is acceptable dinner table conversation to

regale the company with how badly one has been treated in the post-unity purge of the universities and institutions which have stripped many old party members of their prime positions.

Even outside the stalinist salons it is suddenly fashionable to hanker for the old East Germany.

The euphoria over the availability of Coca-Cola and bananas has succumbed to litanies of what one can't get in the united Germany. The bread rolls, apparently don't taste as good as they used to. Whatever happened to cheap washing powder and why don't we get money back on the bottles any more? And at the back of everyone's mind is the blessed certainty that it is all gone for good which makes it possible to talk like this.

## Diplomat 'spied for 30 years'

Bonn — A former West German diplomat supplied East Germany with secret foreign ministry documents for nearly 30 years, the federal prosecutor in Karlsruhe said.

The alleged agent, referred to as "Klaus v R", was arrested last April while serving at Unesco in Paris. He was said to have been paid \$35,000 in fees and been promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the Stasi state security service.

The accused handed over between two and five miniature films of important documents, hidden in matchboxes, and had hidden documents in the toilets of trains travelling between the two Germanies, the court heard.

## Miners protest

Brussels — Coal miners demanding better retirement terms attacked a Belgian regional minister's car, smashing windows and seizing documents before he was driven to safety by his chauffeur. Police said that 1,700 miners from the eastern province of Limbourg in Flanders took part in a peaceful protest before half of them attempted to break through barricades blocking off a zone around parliament, where demonstrations are banned. (Reuters)

## Ferry tragedy

Dhaka — At least 50 people were missing after a ferry boat carrying election campaigners capsized in the Kironkhola river after hitting a fogbound cargo steamer near the port of Barisal in southern Bangladesh. The boat had 83 passengers, but 28 people swam to safety.

## Children killed

Sydney — Five Australian children were killed when fire swept through their home in the country town of Wodonga, 190 miles northeast of Melbourne. Their mother, aged 36, was in critical condition. Police said that there were no suspicious circumstances. (Reuters)

## Summit hint

Washington — The White House spokesman, Martin Fitzwater, hinted that the American-Soviet summit meeting scheduled for February 11-13 may be postponed because of President Bush's focus on the Gulf war. (AFP)



Jurkane: joint ventures are boosting Latvia's economy

## Conscripts flee army brutality

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN TALLINN

A YOUNG Estonian soldier serving 5,000 miles from the Baltic region told his commanding officer he would not take the Soviet army oath, walked out of his barracks and headed for home.

Eighteen months and several escape attempts later, Tanel Kapper, aged 20, has got back to the Estonian capital from his base near the Chinese border and is ready to fight for the republic's independence.

"The Soviet army is one big concentration camp, a labour camp where people are exposed to extreme violence," Anita Stankevici, director of the Latvian Women's League, said. The league was formed to promote women's rights. In 1989 it started collecting data on abuse in the Soviet army. There are instances of young recruits dying. No explanation was given, Mrs Stankevici said, but the corpses often showed signs of being beaten. "We just could not accept any longer that our sons were coming back in coffins from the army."

General Dmitri Yazov, the Soviet defence minister, ordered a round-up of draft-dodgers in the Baltic republics on January 7 after a mass refusal by conscripts to join the army.

Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia are seeking independence from the Soviet Union, into which they were forcibly incorporated by Stalin in 1940. Between the world wars, they were independent.

Last year 7,500 Estonians were called up but only 800 responded. In neighbouring Latvia, there are an estimated 10,000 draft-dodgers and thousands more Lithuanians have declined to serve. "There is absolutely nothing that would make me go back to that hell. I will stay here and fight," said Mr Kapper, who lives near Tallinn.

The three republics adopted laws last year allowing conscripts to do alternative service in hos-

pitals, schools and local government facilities. However, after a bloody assault two weeks ago against the broadcasting centre in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital, Baltic leaders advised draft-dodgers to hide from Soviet troops.

Miks Razuzins, aged 19, from Latvia, is hiding in Riga. "I think it is not the army I am supposed to serve in," he said. "It is the occupation army, and of course it is not safe." A relative, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Mr Razuzins was beaten with heavy-buckled leather belts when he served in the Soviet army and other former servicemen have said that officers regularly abused new recruits sexually.

## Republican factions manoeuvre for home supremacy

TONIGHT President Bush goes to Capitol Hill for the annual ritual of reporting the state of the union. For the first time since the declining days of Richard Nixon, the president will describe the state of the union at war.

Inside the White House, almost the only activity bar the running of Operation Desert Storm is the writing of this speech. Its text has itself become a battlefield, as rival factions fight for their views of how defeating President Saddam Hussein should help the home front and how the home front should help defeat Saddam.

On one side stand those who see Mr Bush's wartime popularity as an opportunity to rally support for controversial programmes at home. The Republican right is looking for commitments on a cut in capital gains taxes and a new version of "read my lips" to indicate that no new

taxes will be raised to pay for the war. It also wants to hear support of high-tech weapons and the strategic defence initiative.

Although the Republican right is not heavily represented in the administration, one of its groups, the advocates of a "New Paradigm" approach to social policy, have used the build-up to war to win an unusually free run of the corridors in which domestic policy is considered. They advocate Thatcherite voucher schemes, public housing sales and tax incentives on pollution control and energy saving.

Their leader, James Pinkerton, the deputy assistant to the president, has become a fashionable figure against the grey background of the Bush White House.

The New Paradigm rests on the premise that the poor will not give up dependence on old bureaucratic thinking unless they have something new in which to

believe. It has been brutally mocked by the White House budget director and king of bureaucrats, Richard Darman who termed it old-hat, pretensions, and open to the charge of "Buddy, can you paradigm?"

The New Paradigmers have reduced the options of the right wing to a struggle to find backers for a new tax-cutting bill and to desperate plots to challenge Mr Bush in 1992.

On the other side of the White House debate stand those who fear that a combative state of the union address would undermine bipartisan support for a war which will make much tougher

calls on national morale before it is over. Its most extreme adherents have argued against any formal speech, saying Mr Bush should follow precedent and send a written message to congress. A full speech on the war could follow as the White House chose.

Other White House moderates argue that the speech, like the football Superbowl, must go on. But, with James Baker, the Secretary of State, applying subtle pressure on their behalf, they argue that the American determination against new taxes would not ease the task of raising money among coalition allies. They favour a speech mostly about the

war, containing enough New Paradigm phraseology to calm the right, and saying nothing too specific which could cause irritation elsewhere.

That view is the most likely to prevail. The president encouraged the Paradigmers after the vacuous November election campaign in which conservative disgust at his budget helped turn thousands of Republican activists into useless apathetics. Only a few months ago, financial losses and difficulties even in finding a party chairman boded ill for 1992. Now that there is a war to win, those worries have faded away.

Unlike Lyndon Johnson, the last president to start a war, Mr Bush does not have a domestic agenda. Johnson was anguished by the impact of Vietnam on his mission to create the Great Society. He wanted to defeat the Viet Cong abroad and poverty at

home. Both his enemies won. In today's White House, the issues are simpler. Mr Bush is a quiet conservative without belief in big government programmes but without much faith in the benefits flowing from their reduction.

As the speech approaches its final draft, it appears there will be successes for the right on capital gains cuts, enterprise zones on the British model and greater tenant control of public housing. But the wording will be vague. For the pragmatists, there is fine-sounding rhetoric on reducing crime, peripheral promises on child health and banking reform, and a rallying call for Americans to face the sacrifices of war.

The president's economic advisers know that Johnson was not only beaten by war and poverty, but by inflation which ravaged America for years after. Taxes and budgets will be on the agenda when Saddam is long dead.



## Mandela and Buthelezi vow to strive for peace

From GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

AFTER months of political posturing, South Africa's most powerful black leaders meet today in an attempt to end savage fighting between their supporters which has cost at least 5,000 lives in the past four years.

Nelson Mandela, the deputy president of the African National Congress, and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the president of the Inkatha Freedom Party, who are meeting face-to-face for the first time in 30 years, both pledged at separate weekend rallies to strive for peace.

Mr Mandela said in the Transvaal: "We go to our meeting with Chief Buthelezi with the intention that there will be no winners or losers. We are not going to hurl accusations against Inkatha ... we are going with an appeal to forget the past and concentrate on the future."

In a similar vein, Chief Buthelezi told his followers in Natal that he was attending the peace conference "in the hope of holding Dr Mandela's hand and saying, 'Brother, let us stop the killing and let us go forward as South Africans.'" He said that he was determined to resume normal relations with the ANC.

Each side is sending a formidable array of leaders to the talks in Durban, which are

expected to last two or three days. The ANC delegation comprises 20 senior officials, while Inkatha, apparently intent on making political capital from the meeting, has assembled 70 delegates.

Whether a peace agreement can be reached is uncertain. Given the mutual suspicion and hostility between the two organisations, fuelled by an incipient civil war in the townships of Natal and Transvaal, prospects for reconciliation are slight.

An accord may not restore peace, but there will certainly be no peace without some kind of gesture by the leaders of the two warring factions.

Independent researchers report a decline in fighting between Zulus loyal to Inkatha and Xhosa-speaking township residents, who in general support the ANC, but say that this is largely because of the organisations have consolidated areas under their control. Roy Ainslie, a monitor based in Durban, is predicting less than 40 deaths in Natal this month, compared with more than 100 in the same period last year. However, he gave a warning that the decline in deaths "does not mean that all is well in the region. On the contrary, incidents and tension levels are still intolerably high".

## Pretoria silent on shooting

From RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

THE South African authorities maintained an embarrassed silence yesterday after the disclosure that Lieutenant General Charles Sebe, brother of the former dictator of its Ciskei homeland, had been shot dead at a remote mission clinic.

He was badly wounded in an abortive coup attempt in the homeland at the weekend and sought refuge at the Izeli Mission clinic near Sutterheim, which lies between Ciskei and Transkei, South Africa's nominally independent homelands for Xhosa-speaking people.

There he was apparently surprised by Ciskei soldiers and shot dead. It is not known whether he was shot on the premises or taken outside by the soldiers and killed.

A South African foreign affairs department spokesman said Pretoria had received no request from Ciskei authorities to intervene to put down the coup attempt.

Ciskei is one of four ethnically defined mini-states regarded by Pretoria, at least for legal purposes, as independent foreign countries. Last February its despotic leader, President Lennox Sebe, was overthrown in a coup led by Brigadier Oupa Gqozo, who now rules as the head of a military council.

The coup attempt at the weekend was apparently led by Colonel Mangwane Guzana, once Brigadier Gqozo's right-hand man. The colonel was killed in the gun battle in which General Sebe was wounded.

As well as Ciskei, two of the other independent mini-states, Transkei and Venda, are now ruled by military councils following successful coups. So far Pretoria has managed to turn a blind eye, but General Sebe's death will increase pressure on it to intervene.

## North Korea warns Seoul of war risk

From ASSOCIATED PRESS IN TOKYO

NORTH Korea gave a warning yesterday that planned American-South Korean military exercises might touch off a war and would threaten Korean reunification talks.

North Korea demanded the immediate cancellation of the "Team Spirit '91" exercises, calling them an open challenge, according to an official government statement. Early troop movements are scheduled to begin this week, with actual field exercises planned for about ten days in March.

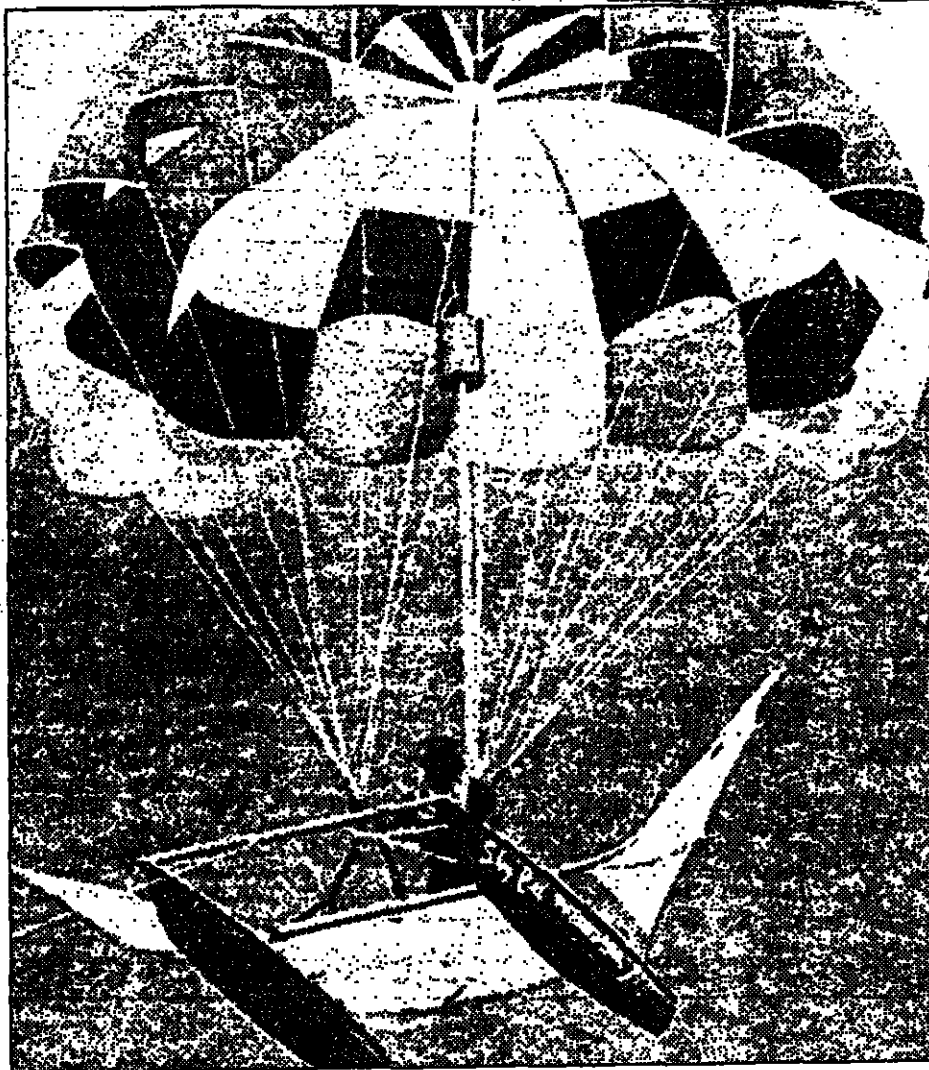
A "reckless provocation" during the exercises might start a war of aggression on the northern half of Korea, the statement, which was said the statement, which was carried by North Korea's of-

ficial Korean Central News Agency, which was monitored in Tokyo.

South Korea's state of heightened military alert since the Gulf war made the planned military exercises with the United States more "grave and dangerous", the statement said. Seoul said the alert was because of fears that North Korea would attack while the world was preoccupied with the Middle East.

Communist North Korea and the capitalist south fought a war in the early 1950s and remain bitter foes, although a series of reunification talks began late last year.

سكذر من الإحمال



Cat flap: a New Zealand inventor, Paddy Monroe, trying out his latest creation over Auckland harbour yesterday. The flying catamaran, being towed by a small boat during lift-off, incorporates a parachute and wings

## Gunfire shatters uneasy calm in Somali capital

By ANDREW LYCETT

HEAVY gunfire was reported in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, yesterday, ending the uneasy calm which had prevailed since rebels of the United Somali Congress took over the city at the weekend. The former president, Mohammed Siad Barre, who was driven out of his official residence, Villa Somalia, on Saturday evening, is reported to have fled in a military convoy towards the southern port of Kismayu. It is not clear if he is trying to leave the country from there or to regroup.

Earlier Marc Gastello Etcheberry, a doctor working with the charity Médecins Sans Frontières, which has been co-ordinating medical relief in the city, had reported that shooting had stopped and that all of Mogadishu was controlled by the United Somali Congress.

The grouping now claims that it is working with other opposition organizations to establish a provisional democratic government. But progress is already threatened by basic tribal differences which have bedevilled Somali politics.

The United Somali Congress, based on the Hawiye

clan of central Somalia, is the party whose military wing brought Mr Barre's regime to its knees over the past month. Its London office, which in the past has been a reliable source of information, says two administrative committees have now been established by its leaders in Mogadishu. One, devoted to military affairs, is headed by Muhammad Nur Galal, a general who, it claims, led the final armed onslaught against Mr Barre. The other is political, under Hussein Haji Muhammad Bodd, an economist, who is credited with having run the United Somali Congress's affairs inside the country. However, these claims are ridiculed by the Somali National Movement, which led resistance to Mr Barre in the north, where most of its Issak supporters live. It says the United Somali Congress is led by Muhammad Farah Hassan Aidid, a general with whom it claims to be in contact.

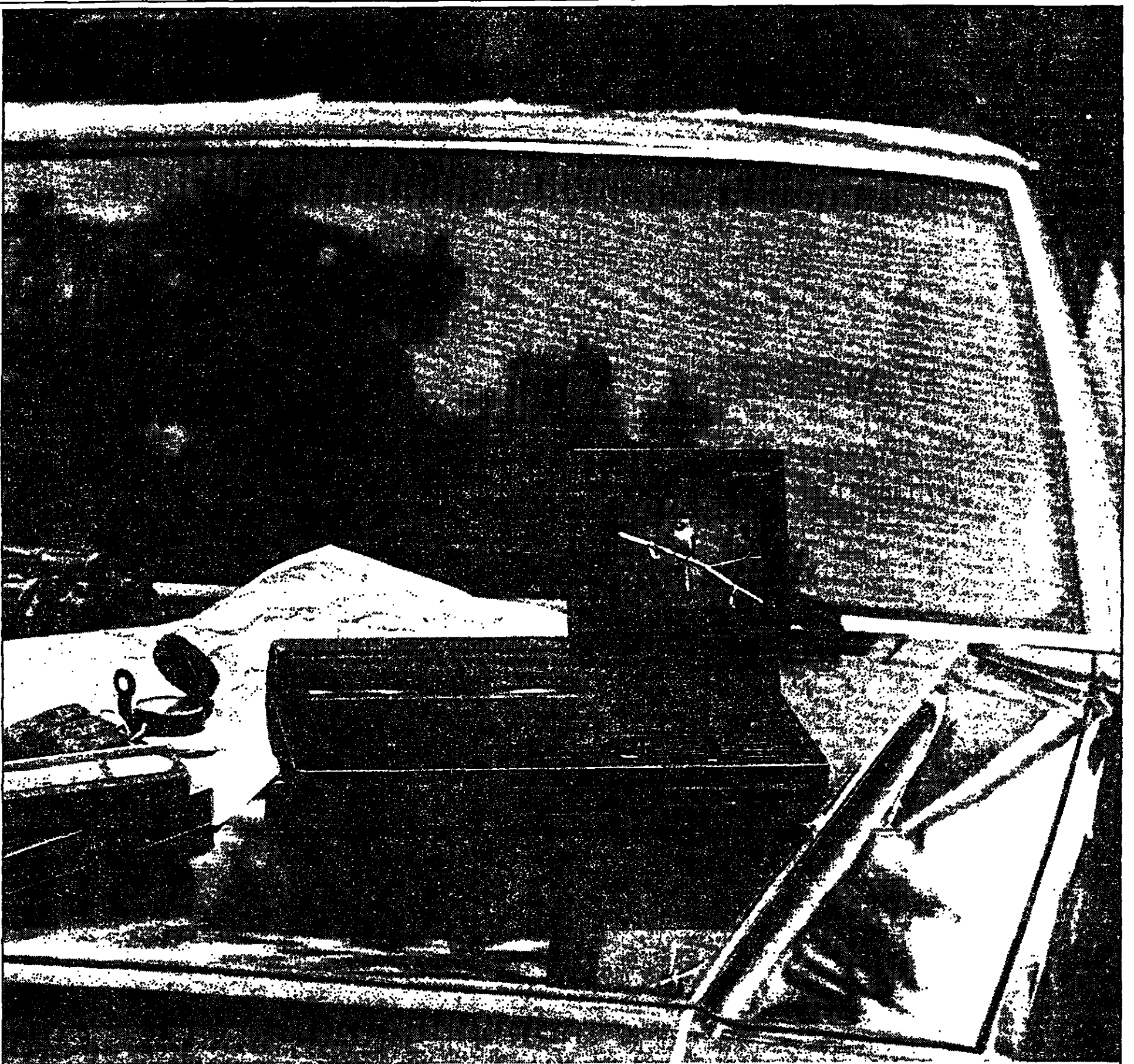
The Somali National Movement, inaugurated in London in April 1981, was the dominant opposition group in Somalia until last year. Its president is Abdul Rahman Ahmed Ali, who was Somali ambassador to the United

Arab Emirates until late 1984. Under his leadership, the Somali National Movement caused Mr Barre a severe upset when it captured the northern regional capital, Hargeisa, and the Red Sea port, Berbera, in May 1988. But the government recaptured the towns after three months of fierce fighting. According to the human rights organisation, Africa Watch, it wreaked its vengeance on the local population, killing 60,000 civilians, mainly Issaks, between May 1988 and January 1990.

The Issak/Somali National Movement rebellion spurred the Hawiye, the country's largest clan with about three million people, to step up its anti-government activities closer to the capital. In Rome in January 1989 it formed the United Somali Congress.

A third, smaller, opposition group, the Somali Patriotic Movement, is centred among the Ogadenis of western Somalia. Under Omar Gess, it has been closely allied to the United Somali Congress.

Following its successful assault on Mogadishu, the United Somali Congress is in the driving seat over political negotiations inside Somalia.



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Woodrow Wyatt

## Will Israel do a deal?

Over the weekend Senator Claiborne Pell, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, told the ubiquitous CNN channel that the United States had created Israel and therefore had an obligation to protect it. This is a somewhat telescoped version of history. For nearly 2,000 years there were few Jews in Palestine. In 1914, when Palestine was still part of the Ottoman Empire, the number had risen to 85,000 compared with 535,000 Palestinian Arabs.

The real flip to Jewish immigration was the Balfour declaration of November 1917, intended to gain Jewish support for the war. "His Majesty's government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of that object, it being understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of the existing non-Jewish community in Palestine."

It was a promise with a latent catch in it. Under the British Mandate local Arabs did not at first greatly resent the influx of Jewish immigrants and were willing to sell them land and property. The situation was more or less stable until the second world war. The persecution of the Jews, particularly in Germany, set off a surge in the numbers of Jews anxious to reach their "National Home". They sought to come by the thousands. In November 1945 Britain and America set up a joint committee of enquiry. It recommended the immediate immigration of 100,000 Jews and the repeal of Palestinian legislation restricting the transfer of land to Jews. It further said that Palestine should be neither a Jewish nor an Arab state, and that the British Mandate should be replaced by United Nations trusteeship.

troops in to "restore order". Weak in numbers but strong in skills, courage and fighting ability, the Jews won themselves a country. Its birth was due substantially more to Britain than to America. In the June 1967 war, Israel expanded its territories to a remarkable extent, *de facto* if not *de jure*. The Arabs of Palestine and most other Arab nations (apart from the Egyptian government, which is by no means wholly backed by its population) never forgave America and Britain for, in their view, compensating the Jews for the horrors of the Holocaust by allowing them to become masters in a land where they had been almost strangers for many centuries.

Hence, despite his awfulness, the mesmeric appeal of Saddam Hussein to millions of Arabs. On the face of it the Israeli-Arab problem is insoluble. Nearly four centuries have passed since the James I plan of Ulster by Protestants from Scotland and elsewhere this side of the Irish sea. No solution is in sight for that mostly racial, part religious problem, nor for the Hindu-Muslim conflict that led to the bloody partition of India and which flares up repeatedly because there is no strong central power like the old British Raj to suppress it.

The Soviet Union has similar intractable problems between Armenians and their neighbours and with nationalist movements in non-Russian republics demanding independence from a weakening Soviet centre. America, with our support, has committed itself to a grand international conference on the Israeli-Arab problem once Saddam's power has been extinguished. If the usual form in such matters holds good, there is little prospect of success.

Israel is unlikely to concede territory which would put a few miles from Tel Aviv a hostile Palestinian state backed by Arab countries still dedicated to driving Israel into the sea. The guarantees for Israeli security would have to be miraculously unbreachable to persuade Israel to give up all or much of the extra territories it now occupies, overwhelmingly Arab though they are in population.

Yet maybe there is a chink of light. Israel so far has shown extraordinary restraint in not responding with massive force to Saddam's attacks, thus earning a grudging respect from some in the Arab world. When the Gulf war ends, the Arab countries will be in no mood to start another conflagration with the old enemy, Israel. Perhaps it is just possible that a *modus vivendi* can be found — unsatisfactory to all concerned but not so unsatisfactory as to provoke an outbreak of large-scale fighting for a few decades. Common sense is not prevalent in the region, but war-weariness might give it a say for a while.

Outbursts of violence and terrorism, as in Northern Ireland, tend to be cyclical and to subside for long periods if ordinary people feel that whereas their conditions are not those they dream of, they are preferable to being perpetually shot at and blown up.

**'When the Gulf war ends, the Arabs will be in no mood to start another conflagration with the old enemy, Israel'**

## Suddenly the buzz-word is Wasp

Charles Bremner reports from New York on the return of Anglo-Saxon values as the 'Me' years fall from favour

For the past two decades, Americans have become ever more sensitive to their origins. As the melting pot has given way to the "gorgeous mosaic", as Mayor David Dinkins of New York calls it, the country has become so defiantly hyphenated that, according to fashionable doctrine, American culture no longer exists. Instead, the United States is held to be a collection of minorities: Italian-Americans, Afro-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, Native-Americans, women, gays and so on, each entitled to preserve and defend a "valid" culture of its own.

Only one group has been excluded from this argument — English-Americans, or, to use the unflattering acronym, the Wasps (for White Anglo-Saxon Protestants). Nobody has ever bothered about discrimination against Wasps. But now, after years of ridicule, there are signs that Wasps are putting aside their reticence and doing what they abhor: drawing attention to themselves.

The Wasp reaction was simmering well before George Bush entered the White House, but his New England pedigree and sense of noblesse oblige were certainly

factors, and they have been boosted by the way he has led the country into a just war and recruited Britain to his team.

Anglo-Americans, though not a majority, have long been a popular target because they were deemed to be the ruling class. With their ethics of work and public service, they forged the original American character and, until the 1950s, set the model for everyone else. It is important, incidentally, to distinguish between the culture of the Wasp and the British character. The Wasp shares the old English view that "the body is to be exercised, not pleased", but the Wasp has a stronger streak of Calvinism and a greater commitment to success.

Since the 1960s, almost every evil and flaw in American society has been laid at the door of the Wasp: Wasps are unfeeling, prejudiced and inhibited; they cannot dance; they dislike sex. Norman Mailer wrote that cancer was the Protestants' "last contribution to

civilisation". Jackie Mason, the New York Jewish comic, raises laughs with his line that Wasps are the only ones who do not have cockroaches because they keep no food in the house. Woody Allen films frequently ridicule uptight Wasps. So negative was the stereotype that Mr Bush, the arch-Wasp, struggled in his 1988 campaign to depict himself as anything but.

Over the past year or so, however, the reaction against the greed and selfishness of the Eighties has sent people back to the old Wasp values of good manners, honesty and service. Cinema-goers are queuing to see a highly sympathetic treatment of old-fashioned WASPdom, *Mr and Mrs Bridge*, starring Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward. Now, the Wasp reaction has found an unabashed champion in Richard Brookhiser, a young writer — only part Wasp — from that un-Anglo city, New York. *The Way of the Wasp*, *How it Made America and How it Can Save it... So to Speak*

amounts to a manifesto, albeit somewhat tongue-in-cheek, for a return to an Anglo-American ascendancy.

America has failed of late because it abandoned the tenets of Anglo-American culture that, for better or worse, made the country, says Mr Brookhiser. Anglo-Saxon Protestants "wrote the rules, everyone else played by them. If America had been founded by Frenchmen or Spaniards... it would be a different place now and a worse one." If so many Latinos still flood northwards, Asians eastwards and Europeans westward to settle in America, he argues, it is to enjoy the fruits of WASPdom.

Mr Brookhiser tries to demolish the view of the Wasps as an upper-class elite from the East Coast, ploughing through history to show that their outlook pervaded all levels. The qualities, he says, can be summed up as conscience, anti-sensuality, industry, use, success and civic-mindedness. Admirable

Wasp behaviour could be seen, for example, in Benjamin Franklin's meticulous time-tables for putting his days to maximum use. It can also be found in the famous reproach of Dorothy Bush when young George ran home to boast that he had hit a home run in baseball. "How did the team do, dear?" she asked.

In the "Me decades" of the Sixties, Seventies and Eighties, says Mr Brookhiser, America pursued un-Waspish values of self ambition and gratification. The pursuit of gratification, he adds, has had its most dramatic effects not on the upper classes but on the lowest: urban poverty, crime, illiteracy and all the other evils could be cured by the imposition of Wasp values.

America can best help the millions of immigrants again pouring in by presenting them with "a clear sense of what... they should become. Waspification is their road to success."

As recently as a couple of years ago, it would have been hard to imagine anyone willing to publish such anathema. The fact that no one has so far tried to arrest Mr Brookhiser or prosecute him is a sign that times are changing.

Mary Ann Sieghart finds echoes of Bevan in Benn's stand on the Gulf

## Pricked by an old thorn

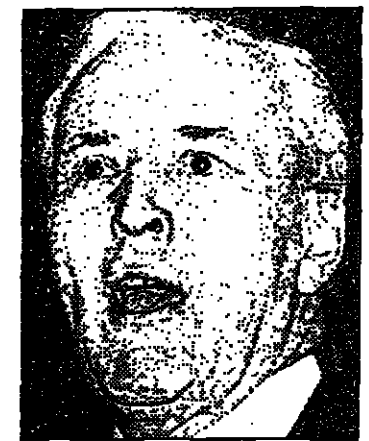
War has always divided the Labour party. It has an honourable tradition of pacifism, but, more annoyingly for the leadership, a nuisance element too. In the 1930s and 1940s, the goad was Aneurin Bevan. Today it is Tony Benn.

The run-up to the two wars has been strikingly similar. In the late 1930s, when Chamberlain was seeking Labour support for his rearmament programme, a small group led by Bevan was vehemently opposed. "It would be a crime of the first magnitude", wrote Bevan, "if the Labour party believed that the war machine now being built either guaranteed the peace or may be used to defend the interests of the workers... The people of this country must be made to realise that the danger of war arises from this government's refusal to mobilise the peace forces of the world." Yet at the same time, Bevan and his supporters were strongly anti-fascist. Like Mr Benn, Bevan had no truck with the Nazis, yet he failed to support the military build-up necessary to defeat them.

Bevan was no pacifist. Unlike Mr Benn, he voted with the government when war broke out. Only four pacifists (six, including tellers) voted against. None the less, Bevan continued his corrosive criticism of the government, infuriating his parliamentary colleagues all through the war. Labour tried to present a united front against Hitler by joining a wartime coalition with the Tories. Bevan was livid. "Along this road," he wrote, "lies death for the Labour party." In the House of Commons, he rejected as "sinister" Churchill's argument that Labour should not let Hitler think that Britain was divided: "The fear of Hitler is to be used to frighten the workers of Britain into silence. In short, Hitler is to rule Britain by proxy."

Bevan, in rejecting the political truce, set himself up as a terror to worry both Churchill and his own leaders. His teeth were sharp. Churchill was fighting the war for Tory ends: Labour was subordinating itself to the Tories instead of setting out its own distinctive war aims and methods. Bevan was accused by Labour and Tories alike of undermining national unity, and virtually of treachery. At such a time, they said, he should not be playing party politics.

Bevan also made a nuisance of himself over how the war should end. When, in 1943, the Allies said they would accept nothing less than the unconditional surrender of the Axis powers, Bevan argued that this would simply prolong Germany's resistance. Unconditional surrender, he said, was "a gift to Goebbels".



● Bevan (left) believed that Labour was embarking on the road to its own destruction by joining the wartime coalition against Hitler. Benn is angered by the Kinnock-Major consensus on driving Iraq out of Kuwait.

What made Bevan most annoying to his party was that, with hindsight, he was often right. For instance, he scoffed at the government's reliance on the bombing of German civilians. "I have found no reason at all why the German population should be more ready to succumb to night bombing than the British public... Sending out thousands of bombers every night to bomb Germany just will not work." The argument was unpopular at the time, but Bevan dared to voice it when very few others were criticising "strategic" bombing. History shows that strategic bombing contributed little, if anything, to Hitler's defeat.

The parallels with today are, so far, striking. The sincere pacifists in the Labour party, of whom there are very few, take a tenable intellectual position which is res-

pecting by the leadership. But Mr Benn's stance infuriates Mr Kinnock, as Bevan's infuriated Clement Attlee, then Labour's leader. Last September, Mr Benn put down an early day motion, signed by 31 other MPs, calling on the government not to engage British troops in conflict in the Gulf without the authority of the UN Security Council. On what he thought was a sound assumption that the United Nations would never give its authority for war, Mr Benn was able to use the UN as a cover for his anti-American (and therefore anti-Gulf-war) views. Ever since Security Council resolution 678 was passed, authorising the use of force, Mr Benn and his supporters have been forced into the open, their arguments stripped of their original logic.

Although in opposition, over the war in the Gulf Labour has formed a *de facto* coalition with the government. That might have been impossible with Mrs Thatcher as prime minister, but in return for a cross-party consensus, John Major has deliberately refrained from taking advantage of

Labour's divisions. Just as Bevan hated the wartime coalition, this consensus has maddened Mr Benn and his group.

For the moment, Mr Kinnock is confident that he can keep his anti-war minority under control. The polls show that his views, not Mr Benn's, reflect those of Labour voters. He has always been at his most popular in the country when he has outpaced his own left wing. He learned that lesson when he expelled members of Militant in 1985 and has practised it ever since. If he has to deal only with the Campaign group of MPs, led by Mr Benn, he calculates that his stock will rise, and he can turn the Bennite opposition to advantage. What he must fear, though, is a nasty turn to the war that could shake the support of more mainstream MPs.

So far, especially since Saddam attacked Israel, it has been relatively easy to corral the waverers into the pro-war camp. Difficulties may arise once MPs start to think about how the war should end. A land war over Kuwait is justifiable, but what if America wanted to lead the coalition into a land war in Iraq?

Already John Prescott, a member of Labour's shadow cabinet, is claiming, and regretting, that Labour's war aims have been enlarged to encompass the toppling of Saddam Hussein. If the Gulf war starts to go badly, Mr Kinnock's unspoken pact with the Conservatives may become politically problematic. In such circumstances, more moderate MPs might start to lose their nerve. Mr Benn might recapture his lost reputation as a prophet, and Mr Kinnock might then find it much harder to hold his party together.

Wars are easy to manage as long as they are going well. A few setbacks for the allies, however, and Mr Kinnock, like Mr Major and President Bush, will find his powers of leadership are put to a much harsher test.

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...and moreover

## ALAN COREN

The woman at the all-night unisex sauna in East Finchley was really very nice. Heart of gold. "Yes," she said, "there used to be an all-night chemist in this parade, but it shuts at nine o'clock, now."

I liked "parade". I hadn't heard the word in a long time. It took me back. There were a lot of parades about when I was young. There were also a lot of all-night chemists.

"Sorry to barge in on you," I said, "it's just that your light was on. I drove down here because Golders Green police station said they thought there was an all-night chemist, but I couldn't see anywhere else open."

"There's only us and the Iranian grocer," said the sauness. "Funny they didn't direct you to Warman-Freed in Golders Green Road. I think they're open all night. Shall I look up their number?"

"That's all right, thanks," I said. "I know where you mean."

It was 2am when I got to Warman-Freed. It was closed.

"Shuts at midnight," said the man in the all-night pizza parlour opposite. He was very nice, too. He turned from the coffee machine and said, loudly: "Anyone know where there's an all-night chemist?"

The half-dozen customers glanced up from their indifferent wedges. Five shook their heads, but a man in a herringbone overcoat said: "You want bliss."

Who, I thought, doesn't? Since, however, I also wanted the bottle of Disalgescid and the course of Amoxyl for which their prescription and I had

been trawling the streets since half-past twelve, I took the chance that the herringbone overcoat housed more than a peckish evangelist doom'd for a certain time to walk the night, and repeated: "Bliss?"

"All-night chemist, corner of Walm Lane and Kilburn High Road."

I stood looking at the dark windows of Bliss for a bit, until the man from the all-night minicabbery across the road stropped over and said, "All night? All night? They haven't been open all night for what, got to be three years, could be four, we've been here, what...?"

So I asked him, because it was the sort of thing a minicabber ought to know, and he said: "No problem. John Bell & Croymen, get anything there, any time. Wigmore Street, on the left, just past that wossname, that all-night video place, what's it called, it'll come to me in a minute."

It took me twenty, and I came to it because when I came to John Bell & Croymen, though the outside lamp light winked cheerily off scalped sets and sphygmomanometers and stethoscopes and curious prostheses and that, no light at all shone from within.

"You're going back a bit," said the proprietor of 24-Hour Video Rental. "They stopped their all-night service donkey's years ago."

"Only place I know," said a customer, piling four dubious cassettes beside the till.

"is Boots at Piccadilly Circus." "He probably meant Boots at Marble Arch," said the man behind the till at the all-night souvenir shop opposite Boots at Piccadilly Circus, where two young Japanese were trying on policemen's helmets, but if he did, he was wrong there, too, as anyone who has stood outside the Boots at Marble Arch at 3.30am will tell you.

So I went into an all-night coffee shop at the top of Edgware Road, and I had a large espresso, and I asked them if I could use their phone, and I rang the Royal Free Hospital because it was on what was going to be my way home, now, and I told them about how I had this prescription for my daughter who had this extremely painful ear infection, and could they possibly supply the medication, and they said not unless I brought the ear in and they diagnosed it first, and I said that was impossible but was there an all-night chemist's anywhere between Land's End and John O'Groats, and they said not that they knew of.

So I came home, and my wife said it was okay, Victoria was asleep now and it could wait till morning, and I pointed out that it was bloody morning, and I was going upstairs to write this piece about the greatest metropolis in the world and how you could get everything you wanted any hour of the day or night, saunas, pizzas, videos, minicabs, policemen's helmets, you name it — remember how it was when you were a kid, you couldn't get anything after midnight except medicine.

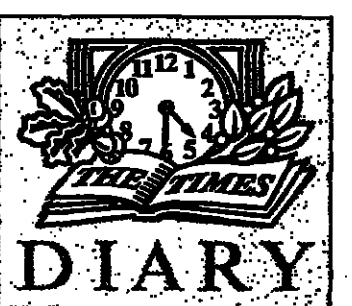
## Dying the death

Over-sensitivity about the Gulf has led the Victoria and Albert Museum to cancel an exhibition in which the most recent exhibit was nearly two centuries old. The museum has shelved the Art of Death, its most important show of the year, which was due to open in March. Three years of collecting, cataloguing and planning were indefinitely shelved on Thursday night when the board of trustees unanimously decided to cancel "The Art of Death", which was felt to be "inappropriate at present".

Costing £250,000, the exhibition was to have examined death rituals between 1500 and 1800. "The exhibition space is booked up for the next couple of years," says the museum, "so we don't know when it will go on show." Some of the 200 or so exhibits have already been delivered and will now have to be packed up and returned. Nigel Llewellyn, who was hired as curator of the exhibition, will shortly head back to his post at Sussex University.

"It was an especially complicated exhibition to organise," says the museum. "A lot of negotiations were going on to assemble the exhibits from museums, churches and private collections." Among the most important exhibits were two early-17th-century alabaster effigies from River Hall in Essex. "We had been trying to get hold of them since May, and only got agreement a few weeks ago." Another intriguing exhibit was to have been a coffin-shaped snuffbox.

Three full-time staff had been working on the exhibition for the past year. Now because the show was cancelled at such short notice, an exhibition of fashion photography will run until April.



● The Inter-Parliamentary Union, founded to unite representatives of parliamentary democracies around the world, might have chosen a more appropriate venue for its 85th annual conference. Pyongyang, North Korea, is hardly the first model of free and fair electoral practice that the West might wish to urge upon either the Soviet Union or Iraq.

## Yanks all the way

While Hollywood prepares to make a spate of movies eulogising the Americans in the Gulf, the British contribution seems likely to go unrecorded in the cinemas.

Sir John Mills, star of such classics as *In Which We Serve* and *The Colditz*, is angry at the lack of finance available for home-grown movies. "When I was making war films, we had five major studios going full blast. Now it's all independent productions and there just isn't the money to make a good picture about the British effort in the Gulf. Nobody deserves a cinema epic more than the RAF boys in their Tornados. Instead, the whole movie slant will be on the Americans."

Michael Winner also fears that the conflict will not produce a single patriotic British film. "No-one could raise the necessary money," he says. "If all the producers clubbed together they

could afford about three rifles and one full battledress. It would have to be filmed in a tent."

David Puttnam had the same money problem with *Memphis Belle*. He intended to make a film about the crew of a British Lancaster bomber, but once it became clear that the only finance was likely to be American, the bomber crew were suddenly assigned a new nationality.

## In a storm?

Before cracking open that 1892 bottle of vintage port after dinner tonight, check the label. If it says Taylor's, which is celebrating its 300th anniversary this year — the family firm would love to hear from you.

As part of the celebrations, the company plans a tasting of port from each year for a century. But, it



seems, the Edwardian Taylors enjoyed their product so much that there are gaps in the company's private cellars. To fill them, "generous sums" are being offered for bottles of vintages between 1892 and 1906.

"We won't say exactly how much we will pay," says the firm. "That depends on the number of offers and the state of the port market." Port-lover Auberon Waugh for one will ransack his cellar. "I have lots of old bottles but I don't know if they are Tay-

lor's because the seals have been lost. It might be worth producing a dusty old piece of rubbish and seeing if they fall for it."

## Mozart ensemble

Bernard Levin wrote on this page last week of the soothing qualities of Mozart during times of war. Such sentiments were perhaps the reason why on Sunday Moscow state radio sought permission at five minutes' notice to take a live broadcast of Mozart's Vespers, sung by the Westminster Cathedral Choir.

The broadcast was Britain's contribution to the European Broadcasting Union's all-Mozart day on his 253rd birthday, featuring Prague, Vienna, Dresden and Paris among the nine other venues. Radio 3 producer Graham Dixon says: "At 2.55pm, five minutes before we went on air live, I heard a Russian voice down the line in contact with Brussels, which was co-ordinating the broadcasts. He wanted to know what was this Mozart church music, who the singers were and how their names were pronounced." Moscow was immediately added to the other 34 radio stations across Europe taking the broadcast live.

"This was probably the first time since Mozart's death that the Vespers have been heard in their entirety in a church service anywhere in Europe, let alone the Soviet Union," says Dixon.

But Mozart's healing qualities were less than totally effective: in addition to the Moscow broadcast, a radio station in Estonia also took the broadcast — on a completely separate feed.

● Don't tell them in the land of Rioja, but requests for a glass of red wine on Iberia, the Spanish national airline, produce a 10 centilitre bottle of Vin de pays des Cotes de Gascogne... bottled in Manchester.





## MR MAJOR'S PARALYSIS

Britain is in an economic slump. If the rate of redundancy announcements of the last few months continues, one million extra people will join the unemployed before the year is out. Within the next few months, manufacturing output will probably fall below its level of 1979, when James Callaghan was still running the country, locked in combat with the big unions. The number of bankruptcies, particularly among the Thatcherite vanguard of new entrepreneurs and small businessmen, the growth companies of the future, is hitting records and will rise faster for every month that interest rates do not come down.

In normal times, such grim statistics might spell electoral defeat for a government. With only 18 months to go before the next election has to be fought, the sick economy would, at the very least, have created irresistible pressure for relief from government backbenchers. Yet Mr Major is told by the opinion polls that he is the most popular prime minister since Winston Churchill.

As long as the Gulf war continues, the government may escape blame for the recession. But the distractions of wartime will not last forever. And even if Mr Major can repeat the post-Falklands feat of winning a general election while unemployment is rising towards three million, this will not necessarily justify the loss of thousands of businesses and hundreds of thousands of jobs.

What, then, should the Chancellor be doing? First and foremost he should be cutting interest rates. There are other ways of trying to boost the economy, by cutting taxes or giving fiscal incentives to the business sector, as proposed yesterday by the British Chambers of Commerce. But such policies generally have undesirable side-effects and distortions. High interest rates are the main cause of the present recession. The Chancellor should not wait for the end of the war, or the March Budget, or the next meeting of the Bundesbank council, or the

universally forecast fall in the retail price index. He should cut interest rates now.

Of course, his officials at the Treasury and the Bank of England are advising him to wait. More time is needed, they argue, to reinforce the government's credibility in the financial markets. They add that the longer the squeeze, the steeper will be the fall in inflation. But these will always be possible reasons for waiting a little longer. And it is by no means clear that the financial risks of cutting interest rates or even the dangers of reigniting inflation will diminish as time goes on and Britain loses more of its productive capacity.

The most important constraint on immediate interest-rate reduction is the government's commitment to keep sterling within its agreed bands in the European exchange-rate mechanism. But waiting may actually weaken sterling further. Once the Gulf war is over, the petrocurrency premium still enjoyed by sterling will probably evaporate. The approach of the next election could also increase anxieties among foreign investors. Even the government's probable success in achieving a downturn in inflation will not eliminate the inherent tension between domestic interest-rate policies and the commitment to the ERM. The ERM has frequently operated perversely, with high-inflation countries enjoying stronger currencies than those whose inflation was low.

The government must recognise that ERM membership has introduced an unpredictable element into British monetary policy. The sensible course would be to cut rates step by step, keeping an eye on the market impact on the pound. At some point in this process the Chancellor might find that he had gone too far and would have to push interest rates back up. This might be seen as a political embarrassment. But it is the way that monetary policy is conducted in other ERM member countries. It would be better to start cutting interest rates now, even if some of the cuts had to be reversed later, than to remain paralysed by the ERM.

## CHINA CRACKS THE WHIP

China is having an excellent Gulf war. Coured as one of the five permanent members of the UN security council, it has emerged from the isolation that followed the 1989 massacre in Tiananmen Square. International loans, supposedly linked to economic reforms from which China's leaders are in precipitate retreat, are flowing once more. China has felt free to prosecute prominent democrats in trials which, were it not for the Gulf, would have invited fresh Western sanctions, though the relatively light sentences at the weekend suggest some sensitivity to foreign reaction.

China's new assertiveness is making trouble for Hong Kong. In violation of the 1984 Sino-British agreement, under which Britain's writ runs until July 1997, Peking is insisting that "China alone has the right to speak for the people of Hong Kong" and therefore to veto all big long-term investment and policy decisions.

The latest intervention is over Hong Kong's plan to build a much-needed new airport and port. Peking has denounced the plan as a devious plot to drain Hong Kong's coffers before the colony is handed over in 1997. Yet the scheme is commercially viable and, were it not for China's hostility, private investors would be picking up the bill. But since profits will accrue only after 1997, investors want to be assured of what Sir David Wilson, Hong Kong's governor, has called China's "benevolent interest".

Peking has exploited the leverage this gives it, with little regard for Hong Kong's interest. China's leaders now regard the colony less as a source of wealth than as a hotbed of "subversion". The aim is to demonstrate, in the run-up to Hong Kong's first direct elections this year, that China rules Hong Kong and that the colonial government is a lame duck with, at best, a temporary management contract.

Last October, Chinese opposition forced the Hong Kong government to announce that the first stage would be financed from public funds. Peking stepped up the pres-

sure. Last month, Hong Kong scaled down the project, from £8.35 billion to £6.38 billion, and invited a Chinese team for more talks. On arrival the team's leader demanded a halt to all tenders and contracts for the airport, saying that "the British government has no power to take unilateral decisions".

Last week, Sir David Wilson went to Peking to clear up "misunderstandings". He came away expressing the belief that China understood that Hong Kong's prosperity depended on "an effective Hong Kong government" and saying that he had told Li Peng, China's prime minister, that the airport would go ahead. But he also said he was willing to take into account China's concerns about the Hong Kong government's financial position after 1997.

Such talk plays Peking's game. The potential drain on Hong Kong's coffers is eminently affordable, and the need for public financing directly derives from Peking's muscle-flexing. The uses made of Hong Kong's reserves are a matter for the Hong Kong government alone. If Peking is allowed to dictate the project's design, that will amount to a surrender not only of economic but of political sovereignty.

This battle of wills is about more than an airport, or even about Britain's right to rule Hong Kong now. For Sir David to bow to Li Peng's demands to cut costs would be to acknowledge that Peking has some kind of veto over Hong Kong's economic decisions. That would not only further weaken confidence in British administration, but would set a precedent for interference from Peking after 1997, breaching the 1984 pledge to respect Hong Kong's autonomy under the rubric of "one country, two systems".

Sir David must know that the more he gives, the more Peking will demand. Neither he nor Douglas Hurd, who is due to visit China in April, should take any more fire-breathing nonsense from Peking. The airport must go ahead, without any further "consultation", on Hong Kong's terms.

## WOE UNTO YOU, LAWYERS!

Lawyers are supposed to be the scavengers-in-chief of recession. At least since St Luke's Gospel, the legal profession has had a bad press. When other businessmen are hurting themselves from office windows, lawyers are reaching for the champagne - or so popular prejudice against their profession would have it. Some lawyer or other can be relied upon to profit from death, accident, disaster, war and every other misfortune. The same should be true of a recession that has already produced a huge crop of bankruptcies and related litigation. Insolvency is commonly as unpleasant for the creditors as it is for the debtors; but rarely so for lawyers (and their partners in Schadenfreude, the accountants).

If the truth were so simple, there ought to be some evidence of the profession's prosperity. But is the average country solicitor contemplating hiring another clerk or two? Are they dancing in Chancery Lane? Are the bells ringing at the law courts, any more than in the high streets?

According to a report in *The Times* today, the reverse is the case. Though barristers are mostly holding their own against the slings and arrows of the market economy, many and arrows of the market economy, many solicitors' partnerships have been making staff redundant. Some have even gone bankrupt. The Young Solicitors' Group of the Law Society is wringing its hands.

The chief culprit is the slump in the commercial property market. The victims include many young articled clerks, whose

promised posts have evaporated before their careers could even begin.

One reason for the straits in which these firms find themselves is the trail of bad debts that insolvency leaves behind it. Solicitors who are starved of new work now find that collecting fees from old clients has become difficult even for them. Delays may be fatal. The nursery rhyme says it all: "When will you pay me? say the bells of Old Bailey..."

Too many pips are squeaking elsewhere in the British economy for these grim tidings about solicitors to elicit widespread compassion. Lord Mackay's great reform of the restrictive practices of the legal profession evoked such a chorus of self-pity that public good will was exhausted. Since one effect of the reform should be an enhancement of the status of solicitors at the expense of the barristers' various pre-entré closed shops, the fact that conveyancing is in decline will evoke scant sympathy even from the Bar.

Solicitors are reputed to be wittier than barristers, readier to adapt to the customer and less inclined to get themselves up in fancy dress. Now is their chance to prove themselves equal to the Lord Chancellor's challenge. Property is in the doldrums? Never mind. Crime is running riot. Libel is outrageously lucrative. Family law is pre-creating. Litigation is luxuriating. There is no shortage of work for solicitors, merely of solicitors ready to get out of their Rolls-Royces, on to their bikes and refrain for it.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### European role and responsibility in the Gulf conflict

From Mr Michael Welsh, MEP for Lancashire Central (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, In your leading article of January 22 ("Europe engulfed") you cite the collapse of the European Parliament's attempt to draft a declaration on the Gulf as evidence that the different histories and interests of Europe's states make it impossible to contemplate a political union.

The point is that the Parliament's debate did not produce differences between states, but ideologies which transcend national frontiers. The parties of the left, including members of the Labour party, took the view that war was so horrible that there must be an immediate ceasefire and Saddam Hussein ejected from Kuwait by peaceful means.

The non-socialist groups including British Conservatives, French Liberals and German Christian Democrats, argued that regrettably force was the only way of achieving this end, and an immediate ceasefire would result in victory for Iraq.

The collapse was caused by the failure of the political groups to reconcile these differences, which were based on political belief and different perceptions of American policy in the Middle East over a long period. The real question is what kind of political union would accommodate these competing ideologies.

The fact that on Thursday the European Parliament was able to agree a text which was quite satisfactory to the Conservatives shows that there is real hope that this can be achieved provided we do not insist on masking political differences in nationalist rhetoric.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL WELSH,  
Waterloo, 181 Town Lane,  
Whitby-le-Woods,  
Chorley, Lancashire.  
January 25.

From Mr Edward McMillan-Scott, MEP for York (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, Lest Saddam Hussein should take too much comfort from stories of EC disarray, let me put the record straight about Thursday's vote on the Gulf war in the European Parliament, as a measure of political opinion.

There are some 90 national parties represented in Strasbourg, split into ten groups. Unlike national assemblies, where whipping ensures support/opposition to a government, voting is more independent. We vote on detailed texts. There is a left-wing majority in the European Parliament.

### Flight distribution

From the Managing Director of East Midlands International Airport

Sir, The Civil Aviation Authority's advice to the Secretary of State for Transport that the traffic distribution rules at Heathrow should be abolished, allowing free competition for slots (report, January 23), could jeopardise the viability of domestic air services throughout the UK. This is freely admitted in the CAA's report to be an almost inevitable consequence.

This raises a number of issues. First, it is vital to many companies and people based in the regions of this country that air links to the capital should be maintained. If the existing distribution rules are to be abolished there must be an integrated transport policy which protects and supports these links. The customer in this instance must come first, not the vested interests of airlines.

### Thanks but no thanks

From Miss Liselotte Leschke

Sir, Mr Kevin Green (January 23) asks for a suitable phrase to express a temporary abstinence from alcoholic intake. Does not "being on the wagon" imply this?

Yours faithfully,  
LISELOTTE LESCHKE,  
7 Henleaze Road, Bristol, Avon.

From Mr Edward Footring

Sir, Mr Green should try "I'm driving." He'll find it immediately understood and unquestioned - and not only in January.

Yours truly,  
EDWARD FOOTRING,  
6 Nottingham Terrace,  
Regent's Park, NW1.

From Dr T. N. Griffiths

Sir, How about, "No thanks, I'm an alcohol-free zone." Yours faithfully,  
T. N. GRIFFITHS,  
South Highlands, Blachford Road,  
Ivybridge, Devon.

### Helping the homeless

From Mr Robert Perrin

Sir, "Crisis at Christmas" lifts, for a few days, the lid on the plight of the homeless in London. Yesterday, Virginia Bottomley announced a scheme to spend £100,000 a year to keep young homeless people off the streets of London (report, January 22).

There are a wide variety of reasons why so many people are homeless in our big cities. Does this not require a bolder and more philosophical approach to these complex issues?

We should look at the experience of the Danes. They have Christians, an old military camp in the middle of Copenhagen. It was "acquired" by squatters in 1971. Twenty years later, it still has a changing population of over 1,000.

It is peaceful, friendly and contained, though of course still not without difficulties. However, a

By a two to one vote, and after two days of inter-group negotiations in which I took part, the Parliament voted for a text which backed UN coalition troops, unequivocally blamed Saddam Hussein for the war, condemned his misuse of prisoners and attacks on Israel.

The text, passed by 202 votes to 98 with 25 abstentions, also stated that only compliance with UN resolutions and a full, time-limited and controlled withdrawal of Iraqi troops could lead to a ceasefire. This can hardly comfort Saddam Hussein, and nor is it intended to.

Whether you take Alan Clark's view of EC military commitment to the Gulf war ("feeble") or Jacques Delors's ("ineffectual") you have to blame the national governments, not the EC, which has no competence yet. Now we should use whatever means to build, not undermine, the European consensus to make any deployment more likely, not less.

Yours etc,  
EDWARD McMILLAN-SCOTT,  
109 Town Street, Old Malton,  
North Yorkshire.  
January 27.

From the Director of the European Movement

Sir, The immediate response of the European Community to the invasion of Kuwait was united and firm. Within a few days it had imposed economic sanctions which have been rigorously enforced ever since because trade is an area of policy where the Community has sufficient authority and institutional muscle to react.

As Douglas Hurd made clear yesterday, "the EC is not a military organisation. In its own sphere it responded quickly."

The Community's success in establishing a customs union and in completing shortly a single internal market shows that supranational institutional arrangements can succeed in achieving unity.

We should consider political union with this in mind. It is precisely because Europe is not united that we need to create the necessary institutional mechanisms to provide decisive leadership in the future.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER LUFF, Director,  
The European Movement,  
Europe House,  
1 Whitehall Place, SW1.  
January 25.

From Dr Paul Taylor

Sir, In his remarks to the House of Commons on Tuesday (report, January 23), John Major was forthright about the adverse implications

Secondly, the assumption throughout the report is that take-off and landing slots at Heathrow would become more valuable than the service and that airlines would trade these slots, often for very large sums of money. If I wished to purchase such a commodity I would first request proof of ownership. By what right do the airlines assume that they are the rightful owners?

As an airport operator we believe that a serviced slot on the runway is our product, which we sell to our customers, the airlines. They have not been granted in perpetuity to any particular airline, nor has the ownership of part of our runway been passed on to them.

Yours faithfully,  
TERRY LOVETT,  
Managing Director,  
East Midlands International Airport,  
Castle Donington, Derby  
January 23.

### Picture-hanging

From Mr Edward McWilliam, RA

Sir, The "New Displays 1991" at the Tate Gallery should earn great praise for director and staff as the rooms are indeed beautifully arranged.

However, one cannot help wondering what the effect would be of extending this sparse hanging to the west side of the gallery where the 16th to 19th-century paintings reside in traditional fashion.

Does the fact that the contemporary works enjoy two or three to a wall treatment indicate that they are considered more important?

Or could it be that they are thought less important, merely objects used to compose a room - installation perhaps, instead of presentation.

Every hanging tells a story. Yours faithfully,  
F. E. McWILLIAM,  
8a Holland Villas Road, W14.  
January 22.

Danish official recently stated to me: "If it hadn't happened, we would have needed to invent it."

A unique balance is struck between limited state help and a degree of self management. The reasons and problems which draw different groups to Christiansa are many and sometimes complementary. From this diversity one group can often help another.

I am fully aware of the variety of objections and obstacles of instituting such a regime in London. However, in calculations of cost/benefit, it is likely to have much to commend it. More important, it might provide an imaginative, original and sensitive approach to what seems to be a large intractable problem.

Yours sincerely,  
H. F. ROBERT PERRIN,  
The Kingfisher, Bears Den,  
Kingswood, Surrey.  
January 22.

### Out of the surgery off to the slopes

From Dr D. P. Maurice

Sir, As a local GP who "lacks the usual winter galls" following a week spent in Val d'Isère, I would like to counter the very misleading reports that have appeared in the press and were taken up in your editorial, "Après ski the deluge" (January 19).

Far from being "a wrinkle, a dodge", the course of medical lectures at Val d'Isère was a perfectly genuine attempt to improve learning by combining business with pleasure - something that commercial organisations have been doing for years. I can vouch that the educational content of the course was of an extremely high standard with excellent speakers, and that the planned 15 hours of educational content in one week was rigidly adhered to.

There is no more reason to feel too fatigued to participate in evening lectures after a day's skiing than after a full day's work, and I certainly learnt more from this course than from many previous ones I have been on. Most GPs were only there for a week, clocking up five sessions, which is half the requirement for the educational allowance, and so they still have to attend other courses elsewhere.

If the Inland Revenue think that the leisure element should reduce any claim for tax relief, that is up to them. I would still go again, even if there was no tax benefit.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID MAURICE,  
The Marlborough Surgery,  
George Lane, Marlborough,  
Wiltshire.  
January 21.

From Dr R. M. Berrington

Sir, Three points arise out of your editorial. First, there is research evidence from the US that well-designed postgraduate activities do improve patient care, programmes are scrutinised by general practice regional advisers and must meet rigorous educational criteria, including defined educational objectives, active learning methods and evaluation procedures.

Secondly, the Val d'Isère course includes active peer-group learning (hardly likely to permit sleep) and independent assessment. Value judgments before receipt of a report would therefore be premature.

Thirdly, motivation is not simply a matter of finance. GPs, like other adult learners, exhibit diverse preferences in learning styles and venues. Provided the educational programme is of a high standard and aimed at improvements in patient care there may be benefits for those doctors who prefer to undertake their professional responsibilities in parallel with leisure activity.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT M. BERRINGTON  
(Chairman, Committee of Regional Advisers in General Practice in England),  
26 Park Crescent, W1.

From Dr M. S. T. A. Lawrence

Sir, You state in your leader that "the new health service contract for family practitioners offers them an annual bonus of £2,025 if they undertake in-service training." That is not true. Each year the independent review body recommends a target income for general practitioners. The postgraduate education allowance is part of that target income, which is only paid if the GP undertakes five days' education a year. Prior to the new contract, finance was available over and above target income for reimbursement of education expenses, but that has now been abolished in almost all cases.

It is remarkable that the government can introduce a system by which doctors can avoid having part of their income docked if they undertake education, and then call it an allowance. But then the government is also introducing changes severely damaging to the National Health Service and calling it reform.

Yours sincerely,  
MARTIN LAWRENCE,  
West Street Surgery,  
12 West Street,  
Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire.  
January 21.

### Teachers' tasks

From Mr A. Newton

Sir, Mr Layton's letter (January 22) shows that he has thought long and hard about making us teachers face up to responsibilities for classroom standards, cutting right through all this wangling about underfunding, overwork and similar.

May I also suggest pay cuts for policemen when crime rates increase, or perhaps for doctors and nurses whenever hospital waiting lists grow longer?

Yours faithfully,  
A. NEWTON,  
2 Montague,  
Summerhouse Road,  
Godalming, Surrey.  
January 22.

### Comfortless driving

From Mr Grahame Jones

Sir, "Transport planning" in this country is a good candidate to top any list of oxymorons. The Department of Transport has strengthened its claim on this title by so far failing to site service stations on the new M40 extension after 23 years of planning.

Yours faithfully,  
GRAHAME JONES,  
5 Downs Court,  
6 Camball Road, SW15.  
January 25.

For European political co-operation of the like-warm support of our European partners for allied efforts in the Gulf.

The Gulf experience leads, however, to precisely the opposite conclusion. It should be deeply worrying for the British that despite being a rich, technologically advanced country, which spends more on defence as a proportion of GNP than any other Community country except Greece, we could not begin to cope with such emergencies on our own.

In fact, if the case is to be made for Britain continuing to accept responsibilities for helping to maintain international order, whether in Europe or on a wider scale, it can surely only be as part of a collective European security organisation - unless we are to rely on the Americans forever.

Yours sincerely,  
PAUL TAYLOR,  
The London School of Economics and Political Science,  
Department of International Relations,  
Houghton Street, WC2.  
January 25.

From Dr John Rogan

Sir, For the semi-detachment of many European governments from the Gulf war, which you deplore in today's leader, the government, under its former prime minister, must carry some responsibility.

Had it not been for the hostility and thinly-veiled contempt for the ideal of European unity, there would have been a unique opportunity for Britain to take an immediate initiative in forging a strong and united European force to oppose Saddam Hussein in collaboration with the US under the UN.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN ROGAN,  
Oak Lodge, Kilm Way,  
Grayshott, Hindhead, Surrey.  
January 24.

From Mr Richard Knox

Sir, In his letter (January 23), Sir John Barnes hopes that the countries of the Middle East can eventually form an association "on the lines of the European Community". But when the fighting stops, and the cost in men and machines is counted, if the present disparity between the contributions of some of the EC member countries continues, how many people in Britain will still regard European "unity" as an attainable or worthwhile goal?

Sincerely,  
RICHARD KNOX,  
3 Alexandra Terrace,  
Penzance, Cornwall.  
January 23.

### Britain and the Baltic

From Dr Susan Richards

Sir, I applaud the sentiments behind your leader on "Glasnost under siege" (January 19) but would suggest that there is a more active way in which the British public can show its support for the Baltic states than to urge its government to reroute EC aid to the republics.

What we can do is to harness the extraordinary capacity of our country for a voluntary response to crisis. We can give moral support to the Baltic states as well as long-term help by playing our part in preparing the people of these republics for life outside the planned economy. It takes courage to win freedom, but it takes more than that.

This help can take many forms. It may come from a business that offers the opportunity for a young English-speaking manager to shadow his British counterpart for a month. It may come from a union that throws open a training course to young workers. It may come from a charity, which chooses this moment to extend its operation, or to help train individuals in fledgling charities out there. It may come from a two-town arrangement; from an association of lawyers, or even from a school.

Such help is urgently needed all over the Soviet Union. But the people of Lithuania and Latvia have laid their lives on the line for change. While the war on Kuwait's behalf continues, it is appropriate that we demonstrate the consistency of our stance on behalf of small nations.

Yours sincerely,  
SUSAN RICHARDS,  
72 Westbourne Park Villas, W2.

### Employers' age bias

From the President of the British Psychological Society

Sir, As the demographic time bomb ticks towards a higher proportion of old people in the population, we welcome the employment minister's recent condemnation, in a speech to the Institute of Personnel Management, of arbitrary age limits imposed by employers on recruitment.

The latest psychological scientific evidence appears to indicate that intelligence does not decline with advancing years and is, in fact, stable throughout the life-span, also that although reaction time increases, inspection time does not. It looks as if age brings a trade-off between speed and accuracy.

Therefore, I wholeheartedly endorse the minister's sentiments and hope that this speech is evidence of an attitude shift by his colleagues in Whitehall.

Yours faithfully,  
P. E. MORRIS, President,  
The British Psychological Society,  
St Andrews House,  
48 Princess Road East, Leicester.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number - (071) 782 5046.











# Business as usual in Paris

The mood in the great French fashion houses is sombre, Liz Smith reports, but while there are still some clients loyal to haute couture, the shows must go on

In the ateliers of the great Paris haute couture houses last week, radios were tuned to news from the Gulf all day long as work was completed on the collections being shown this week. As tiny pearls were stitched by hand to make the polka dots on a silk chiffon T-shirt, worn underneath a navy and white spotted suit for Dior, more than one *petite main* (seamstress), and certainly every proprietor of a couture house, must have asked the same question — what for?

At Chanel, one of the suits being shown today consists of strips of pink grosgrain ribbon applied one by one over the organza base of a jacket, taking 150 hours to make, plus another 65 hours to make the skirt of flying strips of grosgrain weighted with gold metal bars at the hem. Who will be paying £15,000 to wear it this summer to the races at Chantilly or Ascot?

On the eve of the shows that opened at the weekend, the women's section of *Le Figaro* addressed those questions across ten pages. The conclusion was predictable: even with a war in progress, the couture business goes on.

The Chambre Syndicale reminds us that the shows went on through both the second world war and the Algerian war, when the bombs were falling closer to the heart of Paris. The shows go on, even if the Gulf princesses and other Middle Eastern clients are missing. Nina Ricci has lost 60 per cent of its Arab clientele since the conflict began, but there is still one customer who will wear only couture clothes — Catherine Calevas, who works for Estée Lauder, was at the Givenchy show to order four summer outfits for her boss.

Cynics might say that American retailers battling with a recession are delighted to use the conflict as an excuse to cut the cost of sending a team of buyers to Europe. The couture houses are certainly not in the mood to celebrate with the usual post-collection parties;

Alain Chevalier of Balmain announced last December that he was closing the Balmain couture side, because he could no longer afford to lose money making 75 outfits for just a few women to wear. More casualties were predicted, but this week the remaining 20 couture houses, with the addition of two Italians, Valentino and Versace, are showing collections only slightly modified by the prevailing mood.

Pierre Cardin, who shows in his own theatre, the Espace Cardin, came on stage at the start to apologise for what might seem a frivolous presentation. "It was difficult to create in this climate," he said. In the event, he showed fewer of his extraterrestrial styles and mad spunk topknots, and added more black and white to his customary palette of strong colours. True to form, he also included his favourite mille-feuilles of organza pancakes as collars or to edge the neckline on a one-shouldered dress.

Jean-Louis Scherrer wound up his pretty show with a finale of all-black dresses in crepe and lace. When the bride, his daughter Laetitia, came on, she was carrying an olive branch and a live dove of peace. A handwritten note in the programme from Jean-Louis Dumas Hermès, president of Scherrer, said: "It is in the terrible context of war that this collection has been conceived and is presented. By cruel irony, this conflict is being waged in the beautiful land where several of those who appreciate so well French haute couture come from."

Scherrer's was a gentle collection, with Monet impressionistic flower-printed chiffon used for halter tops under soft, wild silk suits. The tiny flowered hats tilted over the forehead and held with a strap were reminiscent of those seen in the Forties.

Audrey Hepburn arrived to support her long-time friend Hubert Givenchy's show, wrapped up in one of his chocolate brown



Strip show: Chanel's pink grosgrain ribbon suit with gold-weighted skirt; right, Christian Lacroix off-white linen suit with embroidered lapels



Mixer: Ungaro's black and white check suit with rose contrast



style or the prevailing sober mood is questionable. He looks as if he is giving the fashion world a lesson in his distinctive bouncy cut and lavish detailing. The opening suits, all in black and white with none of his flamboyant prints, looked as if he had sketched them in ink, emphasised each point and detail more heavily, liked the effect, and left it at that.

His trapeze line, a trend in fashion in 1991 and one this designer started back in 1986, is still very much his own, with the trapeze effect emphasised by layering pretty white lace petticoats underneath. The line is still softened with swathes of organza in palest ice blue on navy, or dashing red on a jewel-buttoned jacket worn with a white satin skirt. For evening Lacroix's monochrome mood moves into soft grey and cocoa, with bustled dresses caught up to a short, puffy hemline at the front. The short evening skirt that swoops low at the back is another strong trend this Paris season.

Some of the great couture houses have still to show, with Claude Montana following up his last award-winning collection for Lanvin, and Yves Saint Laurent showing as usual on the final day.

costs over grey flannel trousers. This year he celebrates his fortieth anniversary of couture with a retrospective exhibition planned for October. Miss Hepburn will be able to choose from neat navy suits, buttoned and banded in crisp white, and flounced evening dresses that dip to long at the back with a very short hemline at the front.

Emanuel Ungaro, whose new

length, still above the knee. Lagerfeld is celebrating the bi-centenary of Mozart by enlarging Coco Chanel's signature black bows into a more flamboyant, 18th century flourish. "We have to keep joie de vivre, even at a time like this," Gianfranco Ferré said before his show for Christian Dior yesterday, knotting a feather-fringed stole around a trapeze-line dress in

cream wild silk, with Ferré's new, asymmetric collar. Big loose coats in gazar (a trend here in Paris at Nina Ricci, Givenchy and Scherrer too) are belted tightly at Dior over the suits that he layers in a rich marriage of texture and pattern, tone over tone. Christian Lacroix gets better and better. Whether the new restraint seen in his collection reflects his own development of

most of his career designing aircraft engines, and he developed rocket motors and ramjets for Napier and Sons (now Lucas Aerospace). In 1965 he joined McDonnell Douglas working on both civil and military engines in California and Florida.



Geoffrey Williams

## Hero in a small back room

Geoffrey Williams lived, and died, keeping secrets from his wife — secrets that may help to win the Gulf war

One of the list of "brand name" weapons being used in the Gulf is the JP233 "airfield attack" bomb carried by RAF Tornados. It has taken its place in the lexicon of battle alongside Scud, Patriot and Stealth. But, as is the case with most weapons, the identity of the designers remains secret. Security restrictions prevent them from discussing their work outside the immediate circle of their close colleagues.

The JP233, as it is now known, was first commissioned by the defence ministry in 1975, and it occupied a design team at Hunting Engineering, of Amptill, Bedfordshire, for many years of intense research. Design engineer Geoffrey Williams, who died five years ago, was project leader of the team that was briefed by the MoD to build a weapon system, to be delivered by an aircraft flying at 150ft, which would render enemy runways unusable.

Setting out to find a way of damaging runways that would also make them difficult to repair, they developed the JP233's unusual "cluster bomb" system. This consists of an outer case containing many smaller bombs, each attached to its own parachute. When the pilot hits the button, the outer case opens to release the bomblets inside. Thirty of them, coded SG357, explode on impact, cratering the runway immediately, while 215 other "area denial" weapons, coded HB876, are turned up-right on the ground by a system of spring legs, and then serve as small mines.

As team leader, Mr Williams was closely involved

from the start but, being engaged in a secret defence project, he received no public recognition of his work.

"The silence which defence engineers agree to keep about their work does not make life easy for them," says Mary Williams, Mr Williams's widow. "I couldn't ever come in and ask, 'What have you been doing today?', because he simply wasn't allowed to say."

But not all of Mr Williams's design projects were subject to such restrictions. He spent most of his career designing aircraft engines, and he developed rocket motors and ramjets for Napier and Sons (now Lucas Aerospace). In 1965 he joined McDonnell Douglas working on both civil and military engines in California and Florida.

Only after his return to England in 1972 did Mr Williams begin working on weapon system designs for Hunting. "I think that he would have preferred to continue to work in aircraft engine design," Mrs Williams says, "but the state of the British aviation industry at that time meant there were no opportunities."

The daily demands of designing powerful weapons in secret bring their own problems. "Anyone working on that sort of project has thoughts crossing their minds from time to time about the destructive power of the objects," Mrs Williams says. "To do that sort of job successfully you have to have a certain personality. You have to take a pride in what you do, you have to be dedicated, and you have to be happy with your conscience."

SUE MOORE

● CORRECTION: In "Men, myths and fighter pilots" (Life and Times, January 23) we incorrectly attributed a quote from George Barclay, the Battle of Britain pilot, to George Barker.

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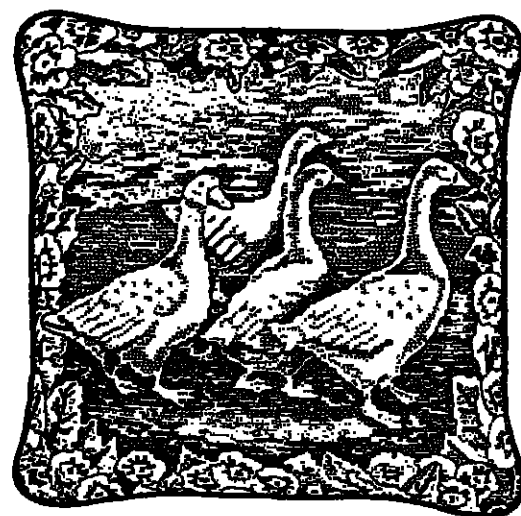
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ANN BLOCKLEY'S GEESE FOR

EHRMAN TAPESTRY



Ann Blockley, the Gloucestershire watercolourist has designed this delightful tapestry of Geese surrounded by a wide floral border, in the soft colours for which she is so well known. The Geese, with yellow and pink feet and beaks, are in off white and pale steel blues. They are walking on a foreground of variegated greens: sage, olive and deep cadet; while the sky is in wintery grey blues and off-white. This is surrounded by the warmer colours of the floral and leaf border: dusty pinks, sand and mustard yellow, dull maroon and the overlapping greens of the leaves. It makes a lovely cushion or picture.

Measuring 14 1/2 in x 14 1/2 in, the design is printed in full colour on 10 holes to the inch canvas. It can be worked in half-cross or tent stitch, and enough wool from the Anchor Tapestry range is included to complete the tapestry in either. The kit comes complete with canvas, wool, needle and instruction leaflet. All for £32.50 including postage and packing. Use FREEPOST — no stamp needed.

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## GALLERIES: SCOTLAND

## Acidic waters at this source

Andrew Gibbon Williams reviews some contemporary Scottish watercolourists

Strictly speaking, animal blood, in the hands of the Lascaris cave painters, was the first artists' medium. But water must have been a close second: Egyptian tomb painters, Greek pot decorators and Oriental calligraphers all mixed their pigment with plain H<sub>2</sub>O. Yet in Europe, it was not until after Renaissance Italy had been frescoed and the possibilities of tempera and oil explored, that the watercolour developed in its own right. And then it became something glorious, in England, Cotman, Girtin and Turner adeptly manipulated their simple means to mirror and romanticise nature.

Some contend that Turner's watercolours are his greatest achievement, and Edinburgh is treated to an annual reminder of his virtuosity every January when the Vaughan Bequest goes on show at the National Gallery of Scotland. By happy coincidence, the Royal Scottish Academy hosts the annual exhibition of the Royal Scottish Society of Painters in Watercolours at this time of the year next door.

It would not be fair to appraise this show against the strict criteria which govern pure watercolour. Many of the exhibits are no such thing: there is collage, *papier collé*, mixed media, acrylic — in short, anything which can be applied to paper. Consequently, the nearly 400 works present a stylistic pot-pourri no more focused than any other open exhibition.

Edinburgh, the city where the Nasmyths and "Grecian" Williams ushered in the Scottish landscape tradition, should augur well for an exhibition of contemporary watercolours. Clearly, however, the peculiarly Scottish interpretation of Claude and Poussin is as forgotten as the Georgian elevation of Princes' Street. Moreover, the Scottish countryside's colours, which watercolour so naturally emulates, have been replaced by lurid, chemical hues.

Barbara Rae, however, has used an acidic palette to good advantage in her recent views of Spain, transforming hill-sides into opulent decorative surfaces. Her most pleasing contributions are "Hill Farm" and "Burnt Hill", in which the colours appear to have emanated from the earth. Derek Clarke, a more senior academician, delights in poisonous greens: his Highland landscapes Holman Hunt or Dyce

might have relished. Most of the other landscapes are as banal as wrapping paper. Ann Oram is one of the few to exploit the suggestive potential and subtleties of watercolour, and the success of her "Lilies on a Dark Ground" (the winner of the May Marshall Brown Award) depends upon the vividness of naturalism which only watercolour can impart. Landscape aside, still-life is much favoured north of the border, perhaps because of the continued popularity of Sir William Gillies and Anne Redpath. In many ways William Baillie is their successor: he delights in sonorous colour harmonies.

Once, it was the case that the oldest generation appeared cold, flat and reactionary in shows like this, where a deliberate effort has been made to infuse the body with young blood. Now, the children of the Sixties look out of place. For 25 years David Evans has been applying the meticulous technique of a latter-day Vermeer to the subject repertoire of Magritte. Two small studies of fruit are perfect in their way, but as alien to the contemporary aesthetic as a bubble-car. John Mooney lays out carefully painted phallic symbols and obelisks, which metamorphose into cacti or face-like palettes. The result is no longer witty, since sophisticated computer graphics have become visual currency.

In painting, youth is no guarantee of virility but in this motley company where ambition is synonymous with gravitas the youngest have the edge. Nowhere does one sense the joy of working in watercolour as keenly as in the one truly magical picture in the exhibition, "A Change of Heart", by Paul Furneaux. In this evocative arrangement of potent universal symbols and calligraphy subsumed in washes, the vicarious experience of an exuberant technique controlled by the imaginative impulse is exhilarating. Unfortunately — as this exhibition proves so emphatically — the stylistic consensus necessary to provide a context in which such a work might be properly appreciated simply does not exist.

● The Royal Scottish Society of Painters in Watercolours' 111th Annual Exhibition at the Royal Scottish Academy, The Mount, Edinburgh (031 225 6671), until February 21.



Subtleties: Ann Oram's "Lilies on a Dark Ground"

## THEATRE

## The reluctant autobiographer

Christopher Hampton, whose first play to draw on his own life is about to begin performances at the National Theatre, talks to Heather Neill

In their early twenties, Christopher Hampton and David Hare, then stripping playwrights at the Royal Court, would discuss the impossibility of surviving in the theatre beyond the age of 30. Two decades on, Hampton's latest play, *White Chameleon*, is due to take its place next week beside Hare's successful *Racing Demon* in the National Theatre repertoire. With *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* playing on stage and screen around the world, *The Philanthropist* about to be revived on tour, and talk of a film later in the year, there is no sign that Hampton is anywhere near writing himself dry at 45.

Yet he still espouses a pessimistic view: "The theatre is consuming people in a brutal way. A lot of playwrights' careers last only two or three years," Hampton maintains that John Osborne, whose work at the Court "legitimised all those of us who followed", is a notable example. "I perceived early that it would not be easy to sustain, and diversified into movies." He is also known for translations (Ibsen, Molière, Chekhov, Horvath, Laclos) and screen adaptations from writers such as Malcolm Bradbury and Anita Brookner.

*White Chameleon* draws on his own life — something he long resisted: "I was aware that writers tended to write from experience early in their careers. That seemed, to me, to lead to a thinning out of material, a repetitiveness."

But Hampton's life has great dramatic potential. He was born in the Azores and lived in Aden, Egypt and Zanzibar: wherever his father's work as an engineer for Cable and Wireless demanded. Later he was sent home to Lancing College, where he and Hare were contemporaries. He then went on to gain a First in French and German at Oxford.

The play focuses on the Suez crisis, the boy Christopher's perception of events in 1956 and his relationship with Ibrahim, an Egyptian servant. Chris is beaten by Egyptian school-boys in revenge for the British killing of 50 policemen in Ismailia, then, at a Sussex prep school, he is victimised as a "wog-lover" when he announces that his father (still in Alexandria) thinks it would be madness to go to war over the Canal. Clearly, then, the "white chameleon" of the title is a metaphor for the boy Chris, forced to adapt to conflicting environments.

The boy Hampton experienced similar reactions: "I kept going from one place to another where people would hold views with absolute conviction opposite to the last lot I'd been knocking around with." It was his political and artistic baptism. As the adult Christopher says

*'1956 hangs over it all. Suez is one of the reasons we are so distrusted by the Arab man in the street'*

in the play: "These symmetrical assaults made a valuable contribution to my political education. I've been wary of every known brand of confident certainty ever since." In real life Hampton describes writing as "a job that has to do with being endemically an outsider".

Three plays-within-a-play occur in *White Chameleon*. Two are early Hampton works, homework for an Egyptian prep school (at Lancing he wrote no plays, but spent two years writing a novel, "turned down quite rightly by every publisher in London"). The third is a scene from the school play: Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*. Hampton describes the process of producing *White Chameleon* as "neatening" memory into fiction, but that first experience of live theatre could scarcely have been more fortuitous. In Ibsen's play, Stockmann — a man of conviction — finds himself swept up in local politics and discovers that "the damned liberal majority" is not always right.

*White Chameleon* was begun in June and finished in September last year, but — typically for Hampton — its writing time represents a fraction of the creation process. Eight years ago, he was already planning a Suez play. During such a gestation, note-books would have been filled with ideas, characters

and scraps of dialogue. "In this case, with every single thing that I could remember from those years," the vital decision, according to Hampton, "is when to sit down and write. For *Liasons* I kept a notebook for eight years, and it took seven weeks to write." The mores

ment can be misjudged: "About ten years ago, I sat down too early — and it died on me." Then he adds, smiling: "Maybe it's just the most elaborate form of procrastination." That is unlikely: Hampton has been known to write an entire screenplay — about Gauguin, at the request of Donald Sutherland (never shown in Britain) — in just eight days.

Hampton is still boyish, bespectacled, his hair raffish if grey. In conversation he bridges the gap easily back to childhood, especially when talking of his Egyptian boyhood friend, Ibrahim. Hampton returned to Alexandria two months ago with the designer Bob Crowley, for the first time in 35 years. The shop-keeper, described in the play, came out and without hesitation said: "Christopher". He could provide news of some old friends, but Ibrahim had not been seen since "the trouble". That is ominous: at

the end of Hampton's play, Ibrahim is left alone in the Hampton's house. Houses were looted within an hour of the Brits' departure, and their inhabitants treated violently. Hampton is still moved to recount these events; indeed, his dramatised account of this warm and funny relationship is equally affecting to read.

Critics and audiences are bound to seek parallels with present events in Hampton's play. The author is discouraging: "What's happening now is more justifiable, but 1956 hangs over it all. Suez is one of the reasons we are so distrusted by

the Arab man in the street." In the play, events are combined or pointed up when necessary, but some elements remain untouched. "Father" is much as Hampton remembers him, something of a *Boy's Own* hero. "My mother, for reasons I can't understand, is different in the play. She can't understand why either. I've told her that writers can't be trusted."

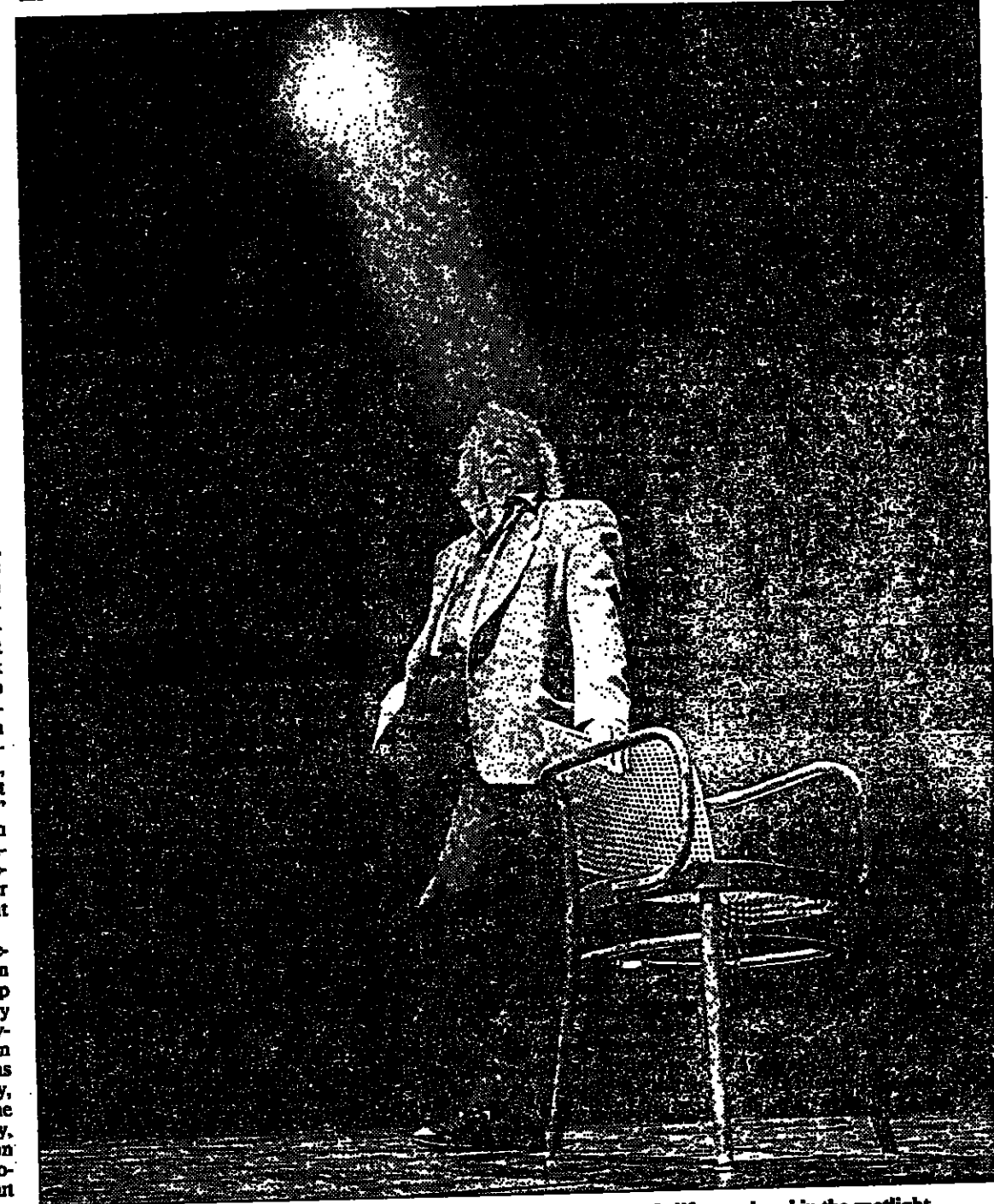
The nature of "the writer" is touched on in the play. The boy Chris announces to his father that he intends to write professionally and is surprised by his enthusiastic reaction. Christopher, the adult

Chris, reflects that "becoming a writer suggested to him some kind of an adventure... It was far more likely to be a wound." But on the face of it, Hampton seems relaxed, and satisfied with his lot.

His methods are, however, painstaking. He says that he is "obsessional" that every character should have a distinct voice, and avoids overlaying dialogue with his own style. He "hears" the voices of his characters as he writes. "Plotting is the most difficult part. It's an abstract headache."

● *White Chameleon* previews at the Coliseum, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 2252) from February 4 and opens on February 14. Christopher Hampton talks about his work in a "Playform" performance there on February 25.

MARC ASPLAND



Christopher Hampton: in his latest play, elements of his own early life are placed in the spotlight

## CLASSICAL MUSIC

## Overwhelmed by Mahler, unimpressed by Prokofiev

What can one say when confronted with the vastness of Mahler's Eighth Symphony? This piece, perhaps the crowning glory of the Romantic symphony, renders one mute.

In the first place that is because of the sheer volume (particularly effective within the unresonant confines of the Festival Hall), complexity and momentum of its opening movement, that massive setting of the hymn *Veni Creator Spiritus*. A part of the soul resents and is even slightly ashamed of that, but by far the greater part is willingly inebriated by its striving for, and

celebration of, divine love. When one man can conceive such affirmative sounds, and others can bring it as gloriously to life as did Klaus Tennstedt and his assembled forces on Sunday, the destruction going on elsewhere in the world is put into perspective.

The London Philharmonic and its Choir, the London Symphony Chorus, the excellent boys of Eton College, and a team of eight soloists (which did not include Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau or Mechtild Gessendorf, as planned) stormed through the first movement. From the opening E flat chord, with its

resonating organ pedal, the spine tingled with elation as Tennstedt, appearing deceptively fragile, powered the music onward.

In the second movement, a poetic, perhaps over-pious realisation of the closing scene of Goethe's *Faust*, the orchestra came into its own.

The sopranos Julia Varady and Jane Eaglen, and the alto Trudie Schmitt and Judith Kappe all sang radiantly, while Susan Bullock, spitting in a box, was suitably scarpic as Mater Gloriosa. Kenneth Riegel, as Doctor Marianus, seemed uncomfortable — this part soars into the stratosphere — though Fischer-Dieskau's replacement, Elke Wilmschulte, made a strong, rich sound, as did Hans Soun.

Heard together in the first movement, the solo singers did not always produce an attractive sound, the requirement for volume sometimes conspired against such refinements.

The night before, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Lothar Zagrosek, gave a relatively well-attended concert which included the first public performance of Benedict Mason's orchestral poem, *Light-*

houses of England and Wales. Mason's work is ingeniously constructed as a series of scenes linked only intuitively and inspired by visits to every lighthouse in his specified territory. Effects of atmosphere, weather, landscape, and of the turning lights themselves, seen from near or far, are crucial. The result sounds very beautiful indeed, nicely orchestrated and with distinct resonances of Debussy's *La Mer* in its evocation of the mystery and massiveness of the sea.

Earlier in the week the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Vladimir Ashkenazy made a disappointing start to

their series celebrating the centenary of Prokofiev's birth. The only Prokofiev work the suite from *Lieutenant Kije*, not one of his more substantial scores. Moreover, the performances, despite some excellent individual contributions, seemed bland, both here and in Rimsky-Korsakov's symphonic suite *Antar*, which made an enterprising beginning. Ashkenazy conducted Stravinsky's *Parushka* with more fire, but still one left with the feeling that it had been a pretty humdrum evening.

STEPHEN PETTIT

## RECORDS: OPERA

## Sing a song of tyranny

BOTH these operas are about history, but where Beethoven's view of progress, at the beginning of the 19th century, is unreservedly optimistic — tyranny will be overthrown; a choral finale, going out from the stage to the audience as much as the finale of the Ninth Symphony, will be the only possible outcome — in Khovanshchina, written in the 1870s, destiny is a much more obscure and ambiguous force. Perhaps it is significant that Mussorgsky never managed to finish his second great historical epic, whereas Beethoven finished *Fidelio* three times.

The haphazard condition in which Mussorgsky left *Khovanshchina* is almost part of the piece: this is a work in which all the main actors, including the composer, are at the mercy of forces beyond their control and understanding. Great figures of forces beyond their control and understanding. Great figures of forces beyond their control and understanding. Great figures of forces beyond their control and understanding.

Mussorgsky: Khovanshchina Vienna State Opera/Abbado, DG 429 758-2 (three CDs) Beechworth Fidelio Norman, Goldberg and others, Dresden State Opera Choir and Orchestra/Hallmark, Philips 428 308-2 (two CDs)

the Great's assumption of power in the 1680s; Prince Golitsyn and the boyar Shakhovskiy, both for different reasons in league with Peter's half-sister, the regent Sophia; and Dosifei and Maria, representatives of the Old Believers persecuted by Sophia. But they are all of them powerless.

The law debars Mussorgsky from putting performances at the Romanov family on stage, and therefore kept some of the chief agents of the period in the wings; but he turned a necessity into an advantage, helping him to create a drama, or rather a wash of dramas, in which the main decisions are being taken elsewhere: several crucial points in the drama concern the writing or delivering of messages, as if those on stage were desperately trying to influence, or to order themselves in agreement with, these unseen others.

Similarly with the musical text, there is no authority in the text, the essential choice being between the Rimsky-Korsakov edition, now dis-

credited as a grand-opera simplification, and the version made by Shostakovich, which Abbado adopts with certain changes aimed at being still truer to the work: surviving orchestrations by Mussorgsky have been substituted where they exist, and the final chorus is done in the arrangement by Stravinsky, which only recently became available. This is scholarship at the service of art, producing a score which sounds rightly raw and pitiless, and which is compellingly projected by everyone involved: soloists, choirs, stage musicians and orchestra.

The recording is taken from performances at the Vienna State Opera (this is the production that was televised a few months ago), and there are plenty of stage noises, as well as changes in aural perspective that come about when singers move. But one can live with these, especially when so many of the central performances are quite outstanding.

Part of the nature of the piece is that the main characters, caught up in historical processes, should express themselves so often in unvarying, repeated phrases, as if their parts were cramping obligations, or as if they were singing not an opera but a liturgy. This style demands



Claudio Abbado: scholarship serves Mussorgsky in a new Vienna recording of the opera, Khovanshchina

great passion and intensity if it is to maintain its power for more than three hours, and happily the cast here includes singers who can make their music burn: Age Haugland as Ivan Khovansky, Anatoly Kocherga as Shakhovskiy, Vladimir Popov as Golitsyn, Vladimir Adamov as Andrei, Khovansky, Marijana Lipovsek as Maria.

Those less troubled by vibrato will put Paata Burchuladze's Dosifei in the same company, while there is excellent work too from Heinz Zednik and Joanna Borowska in smaller roles. The orchestra responds with whipcrack force and immediacy; the choral singing magnificently presents a nation at war and at prayer.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

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## Key examination of Soviet life

## THEATRE

Dear Elena Sergeevna  
Gate, Notting Hill

THE opening work in the Gate's season of women playwrights is a tense, socially alert play by the Leningrad writer, Ludmila Razumovskaya. It was banned as soon as written, but is now played all over the Soviet Union. One can easily understand its popularity, for it confronts a drab but idealistic schoolteacher with the hedonistic realities of the land around her. In a nation where candour rapidly gives place to cynicism, the predicament of characters on both sides of the honesty/corruption divide has found a ready audience.

Elena Sergeevna, the hard-working and bilingually dressed mathematics teacher, trudges back from school to her cramped apartment, unpacks her shopping bag and slumps down in front of the television. Inna Brown's production includes several different sorts of silent pause, and this first one ably conjures up the ordinariness of Elena's daily life.

Then comes a knock at the door and four of her school pupils appear, squeezing into her tiny hall, mysteriously enthusiastic. It is her birthday, they bring gifts, including a bottle of bubbly that, wonder of wonders on a British stage, opens with a real pop and foams at the neck. "It's from the heart," they assure her, smiling.

Another pause follows, but this time the shadow of danger is in the offing. One of the boys steals a furtive glance at another — there is a lot of silent looking in the production, very convincingly done. What quickly emerges is that two of the boys have done poorly in that day's examination and need good grades to go on to art school and the forestry service. The alternative is immediate call-up into the army.



Dominic Curtis (left), Mari Bardock, Julia Dunlop and Marty Cruickshank in Dear Elena Sergeevna

Elena holds the key to the safe where their papers are being held: will she give them the key so they can substitute properly answered papers? Indignantly she refuses and the contest is on to force the key from her.

The excellent Marty Cruickshank presents a range of shocked reactions as the embattled Elena, dumbfounded, irate, frantic, ap-

peals to their honour, their humanity and the demands of truth are swept aside as her pupils itemise the rotten, cheating standards current in Soviet life. These scenes smoothly develop out of each other, and though the tension slackens after the initial of the steadily tightening grip of the first half is electrifying, assault and even rape look inescapable.

Four recent graduates of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama give notable performances as Elena's young persecutors: Nicholas Gleave (cynical), Mari Bardock (embarrassed), Dominic Curtis (ashamedly genial) and Julia Dunlop (torn between anger and distaste).

JEREMY KINGSTON

## JAZZ

Piano 40/2  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

IN THE end the sceptics were right: four improvised solo piano recitals in one evening was more than most mortals could absorb.

Though conceived with the best of intentions, the new touring package from the Contemporary Music Network is another sign of the Arts Council's habit of treating jazz as some form of castor oil — to be administered with a stern fan and the admonishment that it will do you good.

The brooding of the audience in recent years, and the influx of curious but uncommitted listeners, seems to have gone unacknowledged. The CMN still prefers to preach to the converted.

There was, in fact, some fine and extremely challenging music to be heard at the South Bank. The problem lay mainly in the presentation. With no pre-set programme, and with the pianists being shipped on to the stage one after another, the evening was

bound to turn into a test of endurance. A concert such as this needs a sense of structure, even if that means no more than requiring each player to start with an interpretation of a standard.

The two British representatives — Howard Riley and Jason Rebello — gave the most persuasive displays. Riley, a veteran of the first Piano 40 tour, set off on one of his characteristically dense forays before returning to calmer waters in Thelonious Monk's "Ask Me Now".

Rebello's contribution was less adventurous. He is, after all, one of an ensemble player, and a very young one at that. But he did his reputation no harm with a well-judged selection which wound its way through the Impassioned to the unbridled energy of Erroll Garner. He at least had given some thought to the need for contrast, an observation which did not apply to Joachim Kühn, whose indulgences received some of the loudest applause of the night. As for Andrew Hill, whose repetitive set provoked a number of walk-outs, the less said, the better.

CLIVE DAVIS

## CONCERT

BBC PO/Downes  
Free Trade Hall,  
Manchester

GIVEN the right music and conductor, the BBC Philharmonic easily takes its place among the world's better orchestras. In this case the music was Walton's brief overture, *Scapino*, under Edward Downes the orchestra gave it a superbly coloured performance, in which every detail took its magical place, and every change in mood was perfectly judged. The performance was, in fact, a reminder that Walton, at his best, is a composer of considerable stature.

However, the orchestra's later performance of Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique* was less compelling, with far fewer dimensions. "March to the Scaffold" sounded as though it would have been better called "March of the Toy Soldiers": while it was a reading with considerable colour, it contained no hint of threat. There was also a high proportion of messy detail playing.

In the first performance of George Nicholson's Cello Concerto, in which the soloist was his dedicatee (Murray Welsh), Nicholson's control of orchestral colour, even after such a performance of the *Scapino*, was impressive. His orchestration is, of course, very different from that of Walton: Boulez and Berio often seemed the main influences here, as befits a man who grew up in the 1960s. He has a delicious range of textures at his fingertips, uses the orchestra to its full extent, and understands how to keep the ear alive by modulating his thematic material alongside the scoring.

Curiously, though, the least interesting section of his concerto was the material given to the solo cello a part that lacked individuality and inevitability. Although the writing took off a little for the long third movement in the manner of a passacaglia, the general impression was of a work that might almost sound better without the soloist. Nicholson seems an orchestral composer of immense powers tackling the wrong task.

DAVID FALLOWS

## RADIO

Sunday Sport  
Extra/Mozart's  
Birthday  
Radio 5/Radio 3

LAST week's great conundrum was the case of the disappearing radio station. For the past six months Baghdad Radio has been pumping out an amateurish mix of music and propaganda, flown with insolence and whining rhetoric, which has been audible here in the form of a debilitated signal. Although useless as a source of news, it at least supplied a window on the kind of official dementia which passes for Iraqi public life: a lunatic in a windtunnel.

And now that we need, more than ever, to be reminded of the "ideas" which inspire the oppo-

sition, allied bombs have damaged the transmitters and compromised the power supply, leaving BBC's monitoring unit at Caversham with an unfair monopoly. As a spokesman told this column, unless you have a 12-metre aerial in your back garden you might as well give up the hunt. Battle fatigue drove me to Radio 5, where Sunday Sport Extra was holding the rest of the nation enthralled. Martin O'Neill, formerly a star of Nottingham Forest's greatest team, holds down the old pro's job of sitting on the commentator's shoulder and delivering intermittent budgets of wise counsel, often of a cold-water nature.

Though both genial and observant, a rare combination in these latitudes, O'Neill suffers greatly from the condition of Expert's Perfect. "He's slipped his marker, he's turned in a superb ball, and he's been unlucky not to get a

better result." Now, these statements relate to recent but completed events, and would in normal speech be rendered by the presenters. There is no sense in which they gain additional authority by the pretence that significance lingers, open-endedly into the present. It is a great curiosity that when — under the influence of General Schwarzkopf and his fellow countrymen — the perfect is in full retreat from the theatre in which it has most tactical value, it should find such a sanctuary.

Perhaps defensively, this year's Mozart bicentennial coverage is determined to illuminate the odd corners of the canon while taking care to avoid carpetbombing the airwaves — what might be called a measured response. The promise that listeners will not be subjected to every last semiquaver contains the implicit idea that we have had a lucky escape.

Mozart's Birthday (Radio 3, Sunday), the first of five day-long orgies of Wolfgangolatriy, consisted of live concerts from ten cities in which the composer lived and had his being, and was linked by little chats between the emcees. The first, by Nicholas Kenyon and a burbling Mozart expert by the name of H.C. Robbins London. On occasion the latter's delight at the progress of Mozartmania approached speechlessness, one had a dizzying vision of the entire continent going ape in souvenir penwigs. But what was one to make of his euphoria? The sceptic might say that international wrap-ups of this order take place because they can be done. Thanks to the technical capabilities of the European Broadcasting Union, we now know that a cough in Bratislava sounds very much like a cough in Augsburg.

MARTIN CROPPER

## NEW RELEASES

AKIRA (1988) Apocalyptic mayhem in a futuristic Tokyo. Lamentable Japanese animation. Directed by Katsuhiro Otomo. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

CATCHFIRE (1988) Duff Regard as a mobster (Duff Regard) falling in love with a woman (Duff Regard) who falls in love with a man (Duff Regard). Directed by Duff Regard. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

HAVANA (1988) Robert Redford as the leader of a revolution. Directed by John Huston. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

MANIAC COP 2 (1988) Cross return visit of the maniac cop with a new partner. Directed by William Lustig. Cannon Cinema (071-430 3647).

POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE (1988) Caustic first-time comedy, with a new twist, from Cameron Farrow. Directed by Cameron Farrow. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

ROCKY V (1988) Sylvester Stallone fights his way back to the ring. Directed by John G. Avildsen. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

AIR AMERICA (1988) John Cusack as a pilot. Directed by John Dahl. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

AN ANGEL AT MY TABLE (1988) Jane Fonda as a woman. Directed by Peter Faiman. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

ARACHNID (1988) A horror film. Directed by John Hough. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

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## CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated) with the symbol (S) on release across the country.

BEAUTIFUL DREAMERS (1988) Docile, handsome man meets a doctor. Directed by John Huston. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

THE COMFORT OF STRANGERS (1988) A woman and a man. Directed by John Huston. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

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MIRACLES (1988) Two shy lovers find their romance interrupted by an earthquake. Directed by John Huston. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

NARROW MARGIN (1988) Car-and-mouse games on a tight, well-directed thriller. Directed by John Huston. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

THE NASTY GIRL (1988) Provocative, funny, assault on Germany's Nazi past, with Lena Stoeck as the girl uncovering her home town's story. Directed by John Huston. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

REVERSAL OF FORTUNE (1988) Jeremy Irons as the indestructible Claus von Bülow, mad for the attempted murder of his wife. Directed by John Huston. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

ROGER CORMAN'S FRANKENSTEIN UNDISCOVERED (1988) Later-day Frankenstein steps back in time to meet his original. Directed by John Huston. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

THE ROCKING HORSE (1988) Steven Seagal as a cowboy. Directed by John Huston. ICA Cinema (071-430 3647).

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## WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 20

## THAIRM

Scottish dialect for an intestine, and hence a medical string, from the Old English *tharm*. Walter Scott: "The best fiddle that ever lifted thairm with horse-hair, or set the kilts in great hall swinging."

## KHADDAR

(a) In India, hand-spun, hand-woven cloth, from the Hindi *khaddar*. *Khaddar* called on all Indians to raise cotton and to spin and weave it, so that there would be no shortage of khaddar, or homespun cloth.

## EPIGRAM

(a) The disc with which



## BBC 1

6.00 Breakfast News with Nicholas Witchell and Jill Dando  
9.15 Kilroy, Robert Kilroy-Gill, chairs a studio discussion on the use of tranquilisers 9.55 Regional news and weather  
10.00 News 10.05 Playdays with Dave Benson Phillips and Kristina Stephenson 10.30 People Today presented by John Peel and Kristina Stephenson 10.35 The Kitchen with interior designer Mari Maciver and adventure writer Matthew Collins  
1.00 War in the Gulf  
2.15 Scene Today. Daily entertainment show live from Pebble Mill with Judi Siders and Alan Titchmarsh 12.55 Regional news and weather  
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather 1.35 Neighbours. Australian suburban soap (CeeFax)  
2.00 News followed by Goring for Gold. General knowledge quiz with European contestants, hosted by Henry Kelly 2.25 People Today  
2.55 War in the Gulf  
4.30 The Restaurant Cook. Culinary advice  
5.00 News 5.05 Rally Challenge. Round two of the Mobil 1 rally  
5.35 Neighbours (r). (CeeFax). Northern Ireland: Sportsweek 5.40 Inside Ulster  
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Peter Sissons. Weather 6.40 Regional News Magazines. Northern Ireland. Neighbours  
7.05 Informative and original holiday tips. Bill Buckley reports from the former Bullin at Pwllheli, North Wales. Renowned Starcoast World, it is obviously seeking a new image but has it been successful? Ramblers and hikers may be interested in a walking holiday through Germany's Black Forest (CeeFax)  
7.35 Dad's Army. Inner-city soap (CeeFax)  
8.00 Dad's Army. The Desperate Drive of Corporal Jones. The hapless Home Guard from Warrington-on-Sea find themselves in trouble after a mix-up during a map-reading exercise, when the platoon discover they are sitting in a barn which is a target for a live ammunition exercise (r). (CeeFax)  
8.30 A Question of Sport. David Coleman referees as team captains Ben Beaufort and Ian Botham are joined by Sam Torrancia, Fatima Whitbread, Nick Gillingham and Stuart Pearce for another round of the popular sporting quiz (CeeFax)  
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (CeeFax) Regional news and weather  
9.40 Sponder. The Candidates. Jimmy Nail's Sponder must be the scruffiest and surliest of the numerous sleuths currently tackling the disturbing crime wave on television. But it is a compelling series and his manner is justified in his latest case when his boss, Supt. Yelland, threatens to go undercover with Sponder to protect a glamorous local politician who has received death threats. With Amanda Redman and Paul Greenwood. (CeeFax) Wales: Week in Wales 10.00 Sponder  
10.35 Film 91 with Barry Norman. In his laconic, witty style, Norman gives his views on the best and the worst of the new releases. Tonight's crop includes The Criminal, the latest work of the British director Stephen Frears and his first film since Dangerous Liaisons. There are also reports on Gabriel Byrne and Albert Finney in Miller's Crossing and Arnold Schwarzenegger's latest film, Kindergarten Cop  
11.05 Omnibus Special: A Profile of Michael Andrews.  
● CHOICE: Andrews is such an intensely private painter that it is a wonder he ever allowed producer Anna Benson Gyles and her Omnibus team to cross over his wall. The portfolio does catch on, however, when it comes to showing him actually at work on a canvas. "I'm an extremely slow painter," he says, and there's a finality about the statement that only a Pissarro would grumble at. Verbally, Michael Andrews is not one of the art world's most dynamic communicators but his paintings (in particular, his Ayers Rock series and the Good and Bad at Games sequence) eloquently express his fascinating figurative philosophy. An exhibition of his work, including a new rocky series, is on at London's Whitechapel Art Gallery on Friday, Wales: Film 91: Northern Ireland. Open House 11.50-12.50am Omnibus Special  
12.05am News and weather. Ends at 12.15. Wales: 12.25 News and weather



Figurative philosopher: painter Michael Andrews (11.05pm)

## BBC 2

8.00 News 8.15 Westminster  
9.00 Daytime on Two: Meeting individual needs in the classroom 9.30 GCSE German 9.45 Pond life 10.00 Miscellaneous series for the very young 10.15 Learning to read 10.40 Should a secret be divulged? 11.00 The 11.15 A collective farm in the Soviet Union 11.35 A science drama for seven to nine-year-olds 11.55 Different ways to and a piece of music 12.15 Young engineers tackle problems faced by Brunel 12.35 French magazine for beginners 12.55 Effective communication skills 1.20 Mr Benn 1.40 Living on a canal boat  
2.00 News and weather followed by You and Me (r) 2.15 Canvases. From the Derby Museum and Art Gallery. Jonathan Miller looks at the work of the 18th-century English painter Joseph Wright (r) 2.35 See Hear! Magazine programme for members of the deaf community (r)  
3.00 Worldwide: Prayer for a Raven. Wildlife programme (r)  
3.50 Eliza. Carlin's Easterly and Simon Pegg's show how household junk can be recycled and made into unusual, amusing and sometimes useful objects 4.05 Holkey Wolf. Cartoon (r) 4.15 Jackanory. Mandy Richardson with her two of my friend Walter, by Michael Morpurgo (r) 4.25 Quick Draw McGraw. Wild west cartoon 4.35 The Really Wild Roadshow. Sue Dawson, Terry Nuttins and Chris Padman host the show that looks at the natural world. Includes a family of wolves, some friendly meerkats and a cuddly puma cub  
5.00 Newsround 5.10 Grange Hill. Episode seven of the 20-part drama set in a London comprehensive (CeeFax)  
5.35 Advice Shop. What can testicles and grey men do to confront heterosexual prejudice? (CeeFax)  
6.00 World Skiing Championships. David Vine introduces the women's super giant slalom at the world skiing championships from Hintergloden, Austria  
6.35 Redford and Pollack. A look at the work of Robert Redford and Sidney Pollack who, with the recent release of Havana, have now made seven films together as actor and director  
7.05 Cricket: Fourth Test. Richie Benaud introduces highlights of the final day's play in the match between Australia and England in Australia  
7.40 Black Britain: Get Up, Stand Up. A look at the contribution made by black people to sport and music. Prominent black celebrities such as boxer John Conteh and Soul II Soul's front man Jazzy B are featured, and the programme provides an insight into the problems facing black people in such fields  
8.30 Food and Drink. Includes top chef Brian Turner planning a meal which he hopes will quench the ravenous post-match hunger of a ladies rugby 15  
9.00 Twin Peaks. David Lynch's odd whodunit continues. FBI Special Agent Dale Cooper has been fairly slow in tracking down Audrey Horne so far, and now time is running out for her. Perhaps he should shift his attention from maps of Tibet to the rubbish under his bed. (CeeFax)  
9.50 Culloden: Parent Power.  
● CHOICE: His nerves are even more taut than the strings of the tyro Menuhin who are prominently scoping away at the London primary school that has now (thanks to Andrew Bethel's fly-on-the-wall film television series) achieved national recognition. And the reason that Dad is hopping mad is because he says son David has told him that his teacher has threatened to kick his head in. It is yet another case for Geoff, the head whose resilience in the face of insuperable odds on Tuesday nights is surely making him the eighth wonder of the world. The fact that the teacher is black explains Geoff's typically realistic summary of his latest predicament: "This isn't a one-off. It's a 20-off." Small wonder the battledief of a school is called Culloden  
10.20 Building Signs. Artist Michael Craig-Martin reveals his admiration for Lloyd's of London  
10.30 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman  
11.20 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine  
12.00 Weather



Battle-hardened: head teacher Geoff Sanders (9.50pm)

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## ITV

6.00 TV-am with reports from the Gulf. Washington and London 9.00 After Nine presented by Kathy Taylor  
9.25 ITN Gulf News Report. Latest news and developments from the war zone 9.55 Thames News and weather  
10.00 The Time... The Place... Another edition of the travelling discussion show which debates a topical issue, hosted by John Shepherd  
10.40 This Morning. Family magazine series presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan  
12.05 Rod, Jane & Freddy. The musical trio make a song and dance about strange sounds 12.25 Thames News and weather  
12.30 News and weather  
1.20 High Noon. Australian soap about a couple and their foster children 1.50 A Country Practice. Drama serial set around a rural Australian community health centre  
2.20 Take the High Road. Drama set in the Highlands 2.50 Give Us a Clue. Celebrity charades hosted by Michael Parkinson with captains Laurel Best and Liza Goddard. The afternoon they are joined by Pamela Armstrong, Gordon Burns, Keith Chegwin, Liz Fraser, Eamonn Holmes and Adrienne Posta  
3.15 ITN Gulf News Report 3.20 Thames News headlines 3.25 Families. Biographical soap linking the north of England with Australia  
3.55 Gulf News Report  
4.00 Josie Smith and The Princesses 4.05 The Return of Dogtanian. Animated adventures of the swashbuckling canines 4.30 Children's Ward. Drama set in the children's wing of a hospital (Oracle)  
5.00 Home and Away  
5.30 News (Oracle) and weather  
6.00 Blockbusters 6.30 Thames News and weather  
7.00 Emmerdale. Rural soap set in the Yorkshire Dales (Oracle)  
7.30 Thames Reports. The latest news and features from the Thames area  
8.00 ITN Gulf News Report  
8.05 The Bill. A comedy episode of the top-notch cop show has Stinger and Stamp having to deal with a suspected sex attack (Oracle)  
8.35 Strike It Lucky. Michael Barrymore hosts the game show in which families who hit the high spots and dodge the hot spots could win the £3,000 jackpot  
9.00 El C.I.D.: Thursday's Child. In the latest Costa caper Douglas (John Birt) describes his prospects as a detective. He is joined by his partner Blake (Alfred) and a missing young woman  
10.00 News (Oracle) and weather 10.45 Thames News and weather



Scared for life? Convent-educated school girls (10.55pm)

10.55 There's Something about a Convent Girl.  
● CHOICE: Some very peculiar things are said about convent-educated girls in Peter O'Donnell's documentary "The Scared for Life". And after you have watched that one out, what about this one? "The desperate need to please (inculcated in their charges by nuns) is something that needs to be overcome." References to knickers and sex in the trailers for this Thames Television feature might give the impression that its appeal is restricted to the prurient. It isn't. A theatre administrator, and Britain's most senior woman porter officer, testify to the moral benefits of a convent education. But they are the minority. Most of the other witnesses say they have been scared for life 11.55 ITN Gulf News Report  
12.00 Thames Snooker Classic. The semifinals of the amateur competition  
1.00am This Week - 35 Years in the Front Line. A 1967 edition from Aden featuring Col "Med Mitch" Mitchell of the Argyls and Sutherland Highlanders  
1.30 Victor. They presented by Mariella Frostrup  
2.00 World Chess. The Short's chess correspondent Raymond Keen with action from the Tinseltown Chess series  
2.15 How Was It for You? Henry Kelly's guests are Craig Charles, Polly Devlin and Teresa Gorman  
2.45 Profiles  
3.00 Music Special. With reggae star Peter Tosh (r)  
4.00 Entertainment UK. A guide to the country's entertainments  
5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00

## CHANNEL 4

6.00 Channel 4 Daily. Updating the news from the Gulf  
9.25 Schools  
12.00 Channel 4 News headlines  
12.05 The Parliament Programme  
12.30 Business Daily. Financial and business news service presented by Susannah Simons  
1.00 Sesame Street. Educational fun for pre-school children  
2.00 Film. Cardinal Richelieu (1935, b/w). Fictionalised biopic of the man who wielded power behind the throne of 17th-century King Louis XIII of France. George Arliss and Edward Arnold star in a pleasurable drama loaded with plotting and scheming. Directed by Rowland Lee 3.30 Devil's Work. Cartoon  
3.45 Third Wave. The series which attempts to take a refreshingly different look at life for the over 55s. Tom Baker, 38, has 60 years in p.d. How does an elderly ex-con adjust to life in society? (Teletext)  
4.30 Countdown. Richard Whiteley and Bill Tidy with the word-based quiz  
5.00 Over the Edge. The remarkable efforts of 13-year-old Laura Johnson, who cannot stop herself raising money for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association despite having legs paralysed by spina bifida. The programme covers her attempt to add to the £5,000 she has already raised by doing a sponsored ascent - in a wheelchair  
5.30 How Wars End: The First World War - The Peace Conference. The historian A.J.P. Taylor, who died last year - in confusion, and examines the issues raised by the 1919 peace conference (r)  
6.00 Duet: Prelude. The start of a new romantic comedy series from America. A writer of detective novels and a caterer meet at a wedding in Los Angeles and embark on a love affair  
6.30 Remote Control. Comedy quiz show for the young and hip hosted by Anthony H. Wilson  
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext)  
7.50 Comment followed by Weather  
8.00 The Secret Life of Machines. The Telephone. Tim Hunkin takes an offbeat look at the dog and bone (Teletext)  
8.30 The Survival Factor. Deep South. Live. Continuing the series made by Angela's Survival team. Toyah Wilcox narrates the story of the Weddell seal, which can dive deeper than any other and survives by being able to breed early in the polar spring (Teletext)



Who's not afraid of Virginia Woolf: Tom Paulin (9.00pm)

9.00 Without Walls: J'Accuse - Virginia Woolf.  
● CHOICE: The most flattering thing Tom Paulin can find to say about Woolf in the course of the hatchet job he has done on her is that she thinks she is one of the most over-rated literary figures of the 20th century. Well, at least it's a positive judgment. A.S. Byatt swings the hatchet for no other reason apparently than that she believes Woolf wasn't as good as George Eliot and was unpleasant to the lower middle-classes. Paulin has no time for those Woolf apologists who insist she played a major role in the emancipation of women and that she was one of literature's great modernists. And, with a connoisseur's flourish, he produces diary evidence to support his claim (an irrefutable one) that despite marrying a Jew, she was a rabid anti-Semite. Followed at 9.30 by Books. Does "women's fiction", that body of massive metallic covered tomes full of sex and intrigue which sell by the million, really deserve its poor reputation in literary circles? Fay Weldon and Sally Beamish are among those giving their opinions  
10.00 Euroscope. Night Play. First in a new series, with the top heroes from around Europe presented in the first and second series reappearing in this third. Germany's Inspector Dorn (Heiner Lauterbach) is obliged to go undercover in search of a vicious killer and a beautiful taxi-driver (With English subtitles)  
11.00 Town and Country. American singer/songwriter John Prine reflects on the increasing popularity of American country music. Featuring Cowboy Jack Clement, Webb Wilder and Clint Black  
12.00 Channel 4 News Midnight Special. The day's news from the war in the Gulf. Ends at 12.00am

## TV VARIATIONS

● ENGLIA  
As London except: 1.20pm-1.50 With You  
Here Here... 6.00-6.25 Home and Away  
6.30-6.55 The Young Doctors 6.55-7.00  
12.00 Prisoner: Cell Block 2 (b/w) 1.00am  
1.55 The Concorde 2.55 The Invisibles  
Main 3.25 Concorde, the West Art  
● BORDER  
As London except: 1.20pm With You Here  
Here... 1.50-2.00 News 2.00-2.05 Cover  
Story 6.00-6.05 News 6.05-6.10 News  
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9.25-9.30 News 9.30



**By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT**

In Athens an American bank and an insurance company were damaged yesterday. Nobody was hurt. Police believe the bomb and rocket attack was carried out by the November 17 group, which claimed responsibility for a similar incident on Friday.



**By TIM JONES**  
**MENT CORRESPONDENT**

Rolls-Royce said that it hoped that most of the job cuts could be

The company, which currently enjoys a record order book worth £6 billion, gave a warning that compulsory redundancies could not be ruled out if voluntary measures were not successful. Its spokesman said that in addition

**Derbyshire county council has made 5,000 employees targets for voluntary redundancy by April 1. The left-wing Labour-run authority, which was poll-tax capped last year, faces an overspend of £41 million by April. The target employees are those entitled to maximum pension.**

**Harrods cuts, page 21**  
**Leading article, page 13**

So far as is known, there are no bad enough. But to know cows!

The Liberals' Simon Hughes wanted environmentalists to enjoy the same privilege as the Red Cross in war zones. Tony Banks (Lab, Newham NW) wanted to go there himself ("I'll go!" he shouted) to assist.

**MATTHEW PARRIS**

Many of the marines and other crack American units have been hastily preparing wills in the last few days and destroying personal mementoes, even letters disclosing the address of family and loved ones in case they should fall

Several of the men now moving forward have reached such a state of mind since war was begun nearly two weeks ago that they claim not to be willing to tolerate another long period of "no peace, no war" in a bleak desert made all the more inhospitable by recent lashing rain.

- AL RUSS
- 1 The latest way to persecute (4-5).
- 6 Fish in rivers and get one  
knows (5).
- 9 Splendid very quietly making  
an entrance into the arena  
(7).
- 10 Foster daughter, a girl, cut off  
(7).
- 11 Sort of line that's straight? A line  
that's drunken (5).
- 12 Abstruse doctrine unravelled by  
English (9).
- 14 Man's bill is backed (3).
- 15 Down here you'll find soldiers  
about — 7, possibly (7,4).
- 17 I never clear out — it's beside the  
point (11).
- 19 Understand something in a  
strange tongue (3).
- 20 Firing-squad finally is given the  
order to fire (9).

[illegible]

24 Capital girl who ran into 2nd  
place, not 3rd (7)

26 Pondered a little (7)

27 The world died from famine (5)

28 Sell vehicle out East to novelist  
(4,5)

**DOWN**

1 In other words, apply friction  
(5)

2 Melodious note held by one  
who's been bereaved (7)

3 Quiet girl's employed in genuine  
old method of authentication  
(5,4)

4 Hard worker bore a beard in  
days of yore (5,6)

5 Blue stocking, always denounc-  
ing the leaders (3)

6 Divorced, I have enlisted in the  
navy (5)

8 Act as an engineer here (9).  
13 A bit of mail, obviously (5-6).  
14 A social engagement that's given screen time (5,4).  
16 The ideal person met aboard, perhaps (9).  
18 Monarch imprisons a good man and a thief (7).  
19 Girl, about 24 (7).  
21 Premonition experienced in barbarian church (5).  
23 Scoffed when speaking of school (5).  
25 A serviceman's weapon (3).

**Concise Crossword** page 18

**A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?**

**By Philip Howard**

**1. AALAAW**  
 a. An intestine  
 b. To enchant  
 c. Scots measure of heat

**KHADDAR**  
 a. Hand-woven cloth  
 b. A Turkish satrap  
 c. A Tigris sailing-boat

**EPIPHRAGM**  
 a. A mollusc's curtain  
 b. Kneecap armour  
 c. The Adam's Apple

**TANTI**  
 a. A great Scottish aunt  
 b. Worth while  
 c. A snail

**AA ROADWATCH**  
For the latest AA traffic and road works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

2. London (within N & S Circs.)	7
A-ways/roads M4-M1	7
A-ways/roads M1-Dartford T.	7
A-ways/roads Dartford T.-M23	7
A-ways/roads M23-M4	7
M25 London Orbital only	7

National motorways	7
West Country	7
Wales	7
Widlands	7
East Anglia	7
North-west England	7
North-east England	7
Scotland	7
Northern Ireland	7

A Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute

patches, and possibly some blizzards. In the west there will be more wind. Clouds will clear readily. Rain will reach the west coast in the afternoon and turn to sleet in Scotland. Light but fresh wind from the West. Outlook: cloudy in the

**MIDDAY:** h=thunder; d=d-rain; lg=log; s=sun;  
s=steet; m=snow; i=itrr; c=cloud; r=rain

Alpaco	13	55		Majorca	14	57	F	s
Almora	13	56	s	Malaga	14	57	F	s
Alex/dria	17	63	s	Malta	16	61	F	s
Anglia	14	57	s	Matb=ma	20	68	F	s
Anist=am	5	41	s	Mexico=C	21	70	F	s
Armenia	13	56	s	Mexico=C	21	70	F	s
Bermuda*	25	64	s	Milan	1	34	F	s
Borussia	0	34	s	Montrest*	6	21	F	s
Borussia	0	34	s	Moscow	1	34	F	s
Berlin	1	48	s	Munich	-1	30	G	C
Bermuda*	23	73	s	Nearbol	25	77	F	s
Bavaria	6	43	s	Nearbol	1	33	F	s
Bordea*	-1	20	s	N Delhi	26	75	F	s
Brussels	2	26	s	N York*	3	37	F	s
Ch=Chet	1	35	s	Nico	13	55	F	s
Ch=Chet	19	59	s	Nico	13	55	F	s

[illegible]

**LONDON**

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 5C (43F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 8 pm, 73 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun. 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar. mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,029.7 millibars, steady.

1,000 millibars=29.53 in.

Sunday: Highest day temp: Lissiemouth, Grampian, 9C (48F); lowest day max: Buxton, Derbyshire, -1C (30F); highest rainfall: Torquay, Devon, 0.03 in; highest sunshine: Llangynidr, 2.9 h.

**GLASGOW**

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 3C (37F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, nil.

cold start with frost and mist  
aks in the cloud later. Further  
nd the cloud will break more  
stern isles and Ireland during  
or snow over the high ground  
nds for a time in the North-  
west with a little rain.

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen			0	45	sunny
Anglesey			3	37	cloudy
Aylesbury	3.9		48	46	bright
Barnstaple			3	37	cloudy
Birmingham			1	34	snow
Blackpool			1	34	snow
Bognor Regis	.01		5	37	cloudy
Bournemouth			5	41	cut
Brighton	.01		3	37	cut
Bristol			5	37	cloudy
Buxton			-1	30	cut
Cardiff			2	36	cut
Carduel			5	41	cut
Chesham			3	37	cut
Douglas			3	37	cloudy
Dundee	2.8		6	43	cloudy
Edinburgh			3	37	cut
Exeter			3	37	cut
Falmouth			3	37	cut

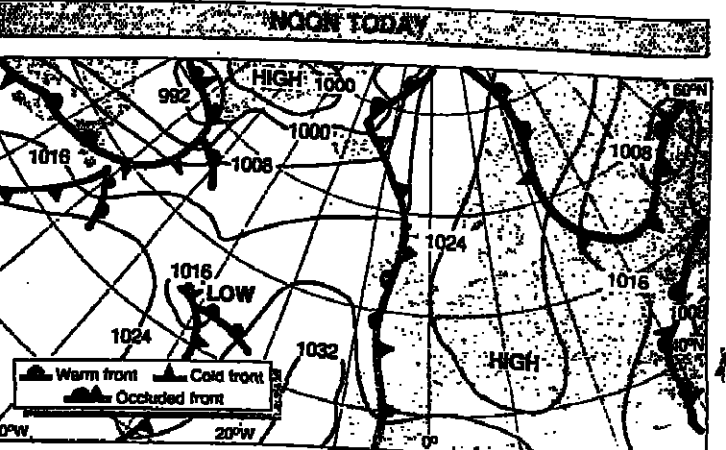
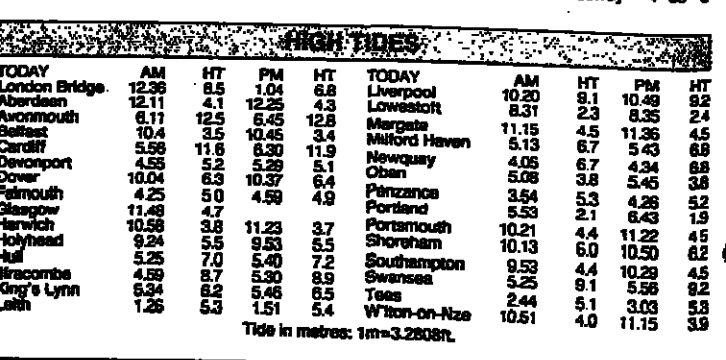
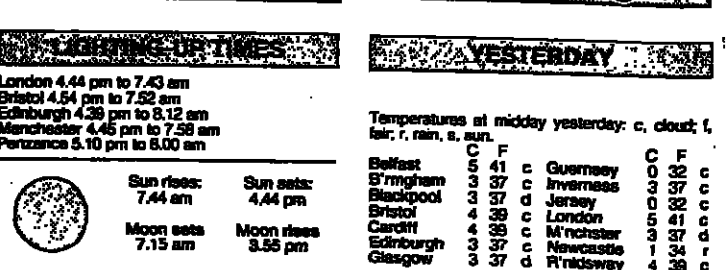
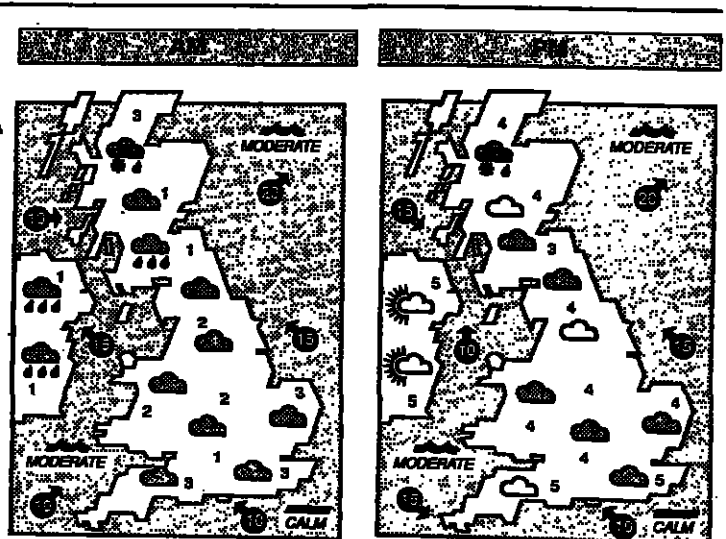
[illegible]

Greater London.....	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex.....	702
Donset, Hants & IOW.....	703
Devon & Cornwall.....	704
Wilt, Glos, Avon, Some.....	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon.....	706
Leeds, Herts & Essex.....	707

Shrops, Herefords & Wores .....	710
Central Midlands .....	711
East Midlands .....	712
Leics & Humberside .....	713
Staffs & Powys .....	714
Worcesters & Glouc .....	715

E. England	718
Umbria & Lake District	719
W. Scotland	720
S. Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
Central Scotland	723
Strampian & E. Highlands	724
W. Scotland	725
Northwest, Orkney & Shetland	726
Ireland	727

Healthcare is charged at 33p per minute (including rental) and 44p per minute (at all other times).



Information supplied by Met Office

مکتبہ دارین الاسلام



● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 21-26  
● LAW 28,29  
● SPORT 32-36

## Recession forces Harrods to cut jobs

By Gillian Bowditch

DEPARTMENT store groups are feeling the effects of the recession and a downturn in consumer confidence since the start of the Gulf War. Harrods has cut 90 jobs, half from middle management, and concern is growing among suppliers to Lewis's, the regional department store group.

Harrods said the job cuts represent only 2 per cent of the workforce. Half the redundancies are of sales assistants and deliveries staff and half are middle management, including buyers and assistant buyers. Michael Cole, the group's spokesman, said the redundancies were part of a "good housekeeping" exercise to improve efficiency and minimise job duplication. He said the store had traded reasonably well over Christmas and the January sale had been encouraging. But customer levels, including foreign visitors, have fallen since the start of the Gulf War.

Lewis's, a buyout from Sears in 1988, denied rumours that it is in difficulty and said it was not for sale at any price. But one supplier who refused to be named said yesterday that he was not delivering a recently placed order. "We are very concerned about them," he said.

James Fyfe, Lewis's chairman, said he was confident of the company's future and said it had net assets in excess of £25 million. Mr Fyfe expects the group to exceed its profit forecast of £5 million for the year to end-September 1991.

A spokesman for Lewis's said it had borrowings of £13.5 million and was not in danger of breaching any of the covenants on its loan agreements. For the six months to March 1990, the last reported period, the group made pre-tax profits of £2.4 million on sales of £83.8 million.

Fletsand, the investment company which is part-owned by Mr Fyfe and which in turn part-owns Lewis's, has had to write off a £2.5 million investment in A Goldberg, the stores group which went into receivership last year.

### THE POUND

US dollar 1.9645 (+0.0055)  
German mark 2.9246 (+0.0065)  
Exchange index 94.7 (+0.3)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1660.0 (+15.0)  
FT-SE 100 2118.0 (+15.0)  
New York Dow Jones 2667.57 (+8.16)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 23569.44 (-3.81)  
Closing Prices ... Page 25  
Major indices and major changes Page 22

### INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 14%  
3-month interbank 13 1/2%  
3-month eligible bills 13 1/2%  
US: Prime Rate 9 1/2%  
Federal Funds 7 1/4%  
3-month Treasury 6 1/2%  
30-year bonds 10 1/2%  
Currencies

London: New York:  
£/\$ 1.9645  
£/DM 2.9246  
£/Sfr 1.4882  
£/FF 6.5394  
£/Yen 162.81  
ECU 10 701.64  
ECU 10 701.64  
ECU 10 701.64  
ECU 10 701.64

### SOLD

London: AM 3374.50 pm 3374.50  
close 3374.75-3375.25 (190.30-191.40)  
New York: Comer 3374.55-3375.05

### NORTH SEA OIL

Brant (Mar) ... \$19.85 bid (\$20.00)  
Denotes latest trading price

### FOUR STAR RATES

Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia	21.55	20.15
Belgium	33.00	55.00
Canada	11.74	11.94
Denmark	7.46	6.58
Finland	10.31	9.85
France	3.05	2.85
Germany	15.80	15.00
Greece	15.80	15.00
Italy	274.75	275.00
Japan	11.91	11.21
Netherlands	262.25	262.25
Portugal	130.75	177.75
Spain	11.40	10.72
Sweden	11.40	10.72
Switzerland	6.00	5.80
Turkey	2.05	1.85
USA	32.00	28.00
Yugoslavia	28.00	28.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.  
Retail Price Index: 129.9 (December)

## Opec protests fail to halt oil stocks release

By Martin Barrow

THE International Energy Agency is to proceed with plans to release 2.5 million barrels of crude oil a day from government-held stocks despite the collapse of oil prices following the outbreak of war in the Gulf.

The IEA's governing board said it had received the unanimous support of the 21 members of the agency, including Britain and America, for its emergency contingency plan, which would remain in effect even though prices are now undermined by the threat of an oil glut.

The decision was taken at an IEA meeting in Paris yesterday and appeared to ignore sharp criticism at the weekend by Sadek Bousseina, president of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), the oil producers' cartel.

Mr Bousseina, the Algerian minister of industry, accused the IEA of engineering a fall in world oil prices at the start of the war.

He added that the agency, and countries controlling information that could determine the state of the market, had worked together to push down the oil price, reducing the economic impact of war on western economies. The benchmark Brent crude fell by more than \$12 a barrel on the day of the IEA announcement.

Members of Opec believe they are being poorly rewarded for guaranteeing adequate oil supplies to the West to compensate for the absence of crude from Iraq and Kuwait. They fear that this oil is being stockpiled by industrial nations, whose stocks are

already at a nine-year high, and will flood back into the market after the war, sending oil prices sharply lower.

Oil is now priced at about \$20 a barrel, compared with Opec's target price of \$21.

"We are extremely worried about the medium term, as after the war, we could find ourselves in an even worse situation," said Mr Bousseina.

The IEA refused to comment on Mr Bousseina's statement but said: "Our objective is not to influence prices but to guarantee the availability of oil."

The agency had not reacted when oil prices rose above \$40 a barrel because that was caused by market speculation and not by the balance of supply and demand.

"With the outbreak of war we are in a totally different situation," said an IEA spokesman. "The oil we are making available can be taken up now or used if supplies come under threat. We are not forcing the oil on anyone."

Under the IEA plan, 2 million barrels per day are being drawn from government stocks. 400,000 bpd to be saved by curbing demand and 100,000 bpd by switching to alternative fuels.

The methods of release vary. In Britain, strategic stocks are held by oil companies, not by the government, and they are responsible for following the IEA directives. Japan has complied by reducing the statutory level of stocks by four days to 78 days' of normal consumption.

In America, oil from the strategic petroleum reserve is offered to oil companies through auction by the energy department and may be withdrawn if it fails to attract market prices. The department said 26 companies had bid for 45 million barrels of oil and successful bidders would be named tomorrow.

Occidental Petroleum also announced approval for the development of the Sature field, 110 miles northeast of Aberdeen.

The field, which contains 140 million barrels of recoverable reserves, will be developed at a cost of up to \$450 million, providing 2,000 jobs. First oil will flow in the third quarter of 1992.

On its trade weighted index of 0.3 to 0.4, as the dollar drifted to end in London at 1.4887 marks and 132.20 yen, against Friday's 1.4880 and 132.15.

Gold clawed back earlier losses to end just 10 cents off Friday's London close at \$375.50 an ounce.

In Frankfurt, the 30-share DAX index ended 0.63 points higher at 1,382.68.

Markets, page 26

## Conoco will develop Lyell North Sea field

By Our City Staff

THE Lyell oil field in the North Sea is to begin production in late 1992, almost 17 years after it was discovered.

Conoco (UK), the operator, has received government approval for plans to develop the field at a cost of £156 million in collaboration with its partners in Lyell, Chevron UK and Oryx (UK) Energy.

Lyell, which is located 303 miles northeast of Aberdeen, contains estimated total reserves of 400 million barrels.

About 30 million barrels will be produced in the first phase while other areas of the reservoir are appraised.

Oil will be produced through a subsea manifold and transported by flowline

nine miles to the Chevron-operated Ninian southern platform for processing and transmission to the Sullom Voe terminal in Shetland.

Lyell is the first North Sea oil development in which more than one company has agreed to share daily production output.

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Markets, page 26

## Markets focus on Gulf hopes

EUROPEAN markets marked time in the absence of big developments in the Gulf war or new economic data from leading industrial nations.

But London markets held up well in the face of recent surveys warning of deep recession and a further expected gloomy report from the Confederation of British Industry today.

Market dealers instead focused on the hope that the

allied forces in the Gulf had indeed gained dominance of the air space over Iraq and Kuwait. BAA and British Airways bounced back from last week's setbacks, helped by a planned resumption of flights to Saudi Arabia.

The FT-SE 100 index rose 15.0 points to close at 2,118.0 helped in the later stages by a bright start in New York and bargain hunters.

The pound managed a rise

## Sweden's Tetra Pak agrees £1.47bn bid for Alfa-Laval

By Wolfgang Münchau, European Business Correspondent

TETRA Pak, the privately owned Swedish packaging group, has made an agreed £1.47 billion (£1.47 billion) bid for Alfa-Laval, the Swedish dairy equipment and processing group.

The deal boosted the Stockholm general index by 3.4 per cent to 931.04 at the close.

Alfa-Laval shares were suspended yesterday morning before the announcement.

The takeover forms part of a decision to develop Tetra Pak, a highly specialised firm best known for its milk and juice cartons, into a more integrated food processing firm.

Bertil Hagman, president of Tetra Pak, said: "We have

installations in common, placed with the world's leading food industries in close to 100 markets around the globe. On several occasions during the past decade a collaboration between the two companies has been discussed."

Mr Hagman added that the merged company will increase investment in marketing, development and technology.

The new company will have a combined turnover of Kr50 billion and 34,000 employees. A company spokesman said the merged group would operate as a private company and there were no plans to seek a share market listing.

Alfa-Laval's main shareholders, the Investor/Providentia investment group and LE Lundbergföretag, a construction company, have agreed to accept the deal.

Tetra has offered Kr282 for each restricted A share, Kr292 for each unrestricted A share, and Kr257 for unrestricted B shares. This compares with a closing price on Friday of Kr175 for the unrestricted B shares.

The two investment firms are likely to make a profit of about Kr2 billion. The deal depends on acceptances by holders of over 90 per cent of the shares and votes of Alfa-Laval.

## Japan's murkiest bank account

From Joanna Pittman in Tokyo

TEN billion dollars of debt, a banker committing suicide in the bath and the apparently gangster-related murder of a property tycoon found entombed in concrete — they are all the ingredients of a classic Forties film noir.

They also form, however, the darker side of Japan's business and financial world, which has been dredged up again with the resignation of Yoshihiko Kawamura as president of the debt-laden trading and property company Itohan & Co. Itohan, which is effectively controlled by Sumitomo Bank, the world's third largest bank, has seldom been out of the Japanese headlines in the last year.

Mr Kawamura, who was ousted on Friday by Itohan directors, was the protégé of the "emperor" of Japanese banking, Ichiro Isoda, the former chairman of Sumitomo Bank, who himself

resigned in October after a bank scandal. Mr Kawamura began his career under Mr Isoda's tutelage at Sumitomo Bank. His aggressive approach to business and pursuit of profit mirrored his mentor's. Both became sacrificial victims of the authorities, and examples to all.

Itohan's troubles stem from its excessive borrowings for speculative investments in the property market during the 1980s. Property prices have rocketed in Japan over the last five years.

Today, however, the Bank of Japan and the finance ministry are determined to stamp out speculation. Their solution — high interest rates — is crippling the country's more wayward investors, saddling Itohan with its \$10 billion debt.

The driving force behind Itohan's property investment binge was Sushiro Ito, who was taken on by Mr Kawamura and within a few months promoted to be managing director and board member, at

the unusually young age, for Japan, of 45.

Mr Ito, who resigned last November, is reported by some Japanese magazines to have been a *wakagashira* (manager) of the Yamaguchi gumi, Japan's biggest gangster syndicate. Word on the street had it that he may also have had connections with the speculative property group Cosmopolitan, whose chairman was found buried in concrete.

Some are saying that Mr Ito's business style at Itohan led the company into some risky investments, some of them reportedly on behalf of Sumitomo Bank in areas where the bank was restricted by ministry regulations. When Yoshihiko Kato, an Itohan branch manager, drowned himself in his bath last month, disaster signals were already flashing. Sumitomo Bank now faces a \$10 billion debt rescheduling.

The finance ministry intends this to be a lesson to all.



ASIL Nadir, above, the chairman of Polly Peck International, appeared at Bow Street magistrates' court on 18 charges of theft and false accounting.

No new charges were made against Mr Nadir during the half-hour hearing yesterday, and he was again remanded on bail of £3.5 million until April 23.

During the hearing, Mr Nadir's solicitors successfully applied for his bail restrictions to be partly relaxed.

Vizards, his firm of solicitors, has been

allowed to approach witnesses to help prepare a defence, although Mr Nadir is still barred from contacting present and past directors of Polly Peck on his own.

Mr Nadir, his family and his bodyguards had to push through a crowd of supporters to reach the court.

Outside there was a small demonstration by the Turkish Legal Support Committee, who waved banners proclaiming that Mr Nadir was a Turkish Cypriot patriot. "We wish we had many more like him," said one organiser.

## Administrators to Polly Peck win access to Turkish records

By Neil Bennett

THE administrators to Polly Peck International, the collapsed fruit trading and electronics group, have won access to the company's financial records in Turkey.

Michael Jordan, a joint administrator from Cork Gully, has given warning, however, that he may have to reconstruct the group without its assets in northern Cyprus unless the subsidiaries open their books for inspection soon.

Mr Jordan met directors from Meyna, Polly's Turkish fruit trading subsidiary in Turkey last week.

Opposition to Cork Gully faded there and the firm convinced the directors to

give Cork Gully access to all the company's records.

A team from Cork Gully in London has now gone to start work on the records, supported by the firm's Turkish office. Meyna has also allowed the administrator to examine its fruit trading business to verify the internal figures.

Similar attempts to open up Polly's books in northern Cyprus have failed. Discussions are continuing between Cork Gully's solicitors in Nicosia and the head of Unipac and Sunest, Polly's main subsidiaries on the island.

An injunction which stops the administrators from

examining the group's accounts is still in force.

Vestel, Polly's electronics manufacturer in Turkey, has been assisting the Cork Gully since the group failed last year, and is now operating on a cash injection arranged in the first days of administration.

The administrators are due to publish a reconstruction plan for creditors and shareholders by March. Mr Jordan said if there was any progress in the discussions in Cyprus, the administrators may return to court to seek an extension. He gave warning that if nothing developed, the Cypriot companies would have to be excluded from reconstruction.

## WTA sale of £126m pulp stake called off

By Graham Searjeant Financial Editor

THE planned £126 million sale of Wiggins Teape Appleton's 43 per cent stake in Soporel, the Portuguese pulp and paper mill, has fallen through because of unexpected objections from the Portuguese government.

Shares in the Franco-British paper group fell 6p to 172p.

Stora Kopparbergs, of Sweden, which signed a letter of intent to buy the stake a fortnight ago, has pulled out after receiving a recommendation from the Portuguese government not to go ahead. This is effectively a veto since Soporel enjoys tax concessions that, under WTA's original investment agreement, can be withdrawn on a change in control.

As a form of compensation, the Lisbon government, which has a privatisation programme, has offered to sell Stora its outstanding minority stake in Celbi, another Portuguese pulp and paper operation controlled by Stora.

Earlier attempts by Stora to buy the Celbi stake were refused.

After talks before the announcement of the Soporel deal, both sides had been confident that it would be approved. Tony Isaac, WTA's finance director, said the change of heart had come as a surprise, but that the sale had been part of a long-term plan to invest in higher added value products and did not present any immediate financial problems for WTA.

Per Knuts, executive vice-president of Stora, said the deal was politically sensitive, since Stora would thereby have gained operational control of about half the Portuguese industry. Most of the rest of Soporel, which is quoted, is owned by Portuguese institutions, including state-controlled banks.

WTA is to go back to other Scandinavian and North American companies with which it had discussed a sale of the Soporel stake before prior to concentrating on dealing with Stora. WTA may now have to drop its price.

Mr Isaac said the cash from the failed deal was not needed for the group's immediate plans. WTA's management is also concerned with sorting out the merger with Arjomari, the French paper group, and says it can raise alternative finance for the £60 million to \$70 million purchase of an American mill.

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**MIGROUP**



# NEDC will help firms in European public sector

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A WORKING party to help British business compete more effectively in the £450 billion European market for public sector supplies is to be set up by the National Economic Development Council.

The group's task is to counter fears that small and medium-sized companies may lose out as procurement policies become more international. Sir John Cuckney, who is to chair the working party, said more open purchasing policies in Britain seemed to be encouraging European suppliers. But British companies faced less accessible markets overseas.

Dr Walter Ellis, director of NEDC, said there was a danger Europe would lose the cost and quality benefits of

competitive tendering unless companies were encouraged and enabled to compete for contracts.

Sir John, chairman of 3i, the investment capital group, and a former head of Westland, the helicopter maker, said companies should learn to "huddle together" to bid.

Consortium tenders and partnerships with companies knowledgeable about particular markets should be considered. "In working in Europe we do need to rethink whether minority equity interests are not an excellent first start as a way of gaining expertise," he said. Sir John said the working party would also look at how the skills of purchasing officers could be improved.

He highlighted the importance of small and medium-sized companies in the employment market. In Britain, businesses with 200 or fewer workers accounted for 60 per cent of private sector jobs. The working party will include Sir David Alliance, chairman of Coats Viyella, the textiles group; Allan Gormly, chief executive of John Brown, the engineering group; and Neil Cross, head of international operations at 3i. There will be members from France, Germany and Denmark.

## Tyndall sells subsidiary

TYNDALL Holdings is selling its 59.6 per cent owned Australian subsidiary, partly in a management buyout and partly in a sale to an Industrial Equity (Pacific) subsidiary, subject to regulatory approvals.

The investment was written down to a nominal value in Tyndall's interim report.

## Optical down

Optical and Medical International reported pre-tax profits down from £2.61 million to £1.6 million for the six months to September. Earnings were 2p a share, against 4p. The interim dividend is maintained at 1.75p.

## Guinness deal

GUINNESS'S £518 million purchase of La Cruz del Campo, Spain's biggest brewer, has gone unconditional after receiving acceptances from shareholders representing 96.5 per cent of equity.

## CRH purchase

CRH, the Dublin building materials group, is acquiring Stradal Klinterwerke, a German clay brick maker, for DM25.7 million.

## Cardiff ahead

Cardiff Property increased pre-tax profits from £102,000 to £217,000 in the year to end-September. Earnings were 6.8p a share (4.3p). A final dividend of 1.55p makes 2.4p (2.5p).

## Prospect slips

Prospect Industries reports pre-tax profits down from a pro forma £493,000 to £478,000 in the ten months to end-December. Earnings per share were 0.59p (0.58p). A final dividend of 0.1p makes 0.2p.

## Goodman reshuffle approved

THE High Court in Dublin has approved the restructuring of Goodman International proposed by Mr Peter Fitzpatrick, the Examiner.

The plan involves the company's bankers, which are owed Ir£470 million (£427 million), taking an initial 60 per cent stake in the restructured company. Under the plan Goodman International hopes to raise Ir£134 million from asset sales while the banks will forgo interest on Ir£270 million of the money owed to them.

The workout plan sets a series of targets for Goodman International under the Fitzpatrick plan. If these are fully achieved Mr Larry Goodman's stake in the company will rise from the initial 40 per cent to up to 90 per cent. Among the assets up for sale are a 68 per cent stake in Food Industries, the Irish quoted food company, and a 13 per cent stake in Berisford.

If the plan achieves its targets a total of Ir£633 million will be realised over the next seven years. Mr Fitzpatrick puts a net present value of Ir£373 million on this sum, or the equivalent of 17.7p in the pound. However, this depends on the group recovering the Ir£170 million owed for beef supplied to Iraq. If this is not recovered the value of the package falls to Ir£53p in the pound.

Mr Larry Goodman will remain as managing director of the group but a new chairman and finance director will be appointed. The plan predicts operating profits of Ir£30.6 million this year rising to Ir£38 million by 1997.

Despite reservations of some of the 33 banks owed money about the plan, the alternative, liquidation, was even less appealing.

## New terms for NatNed merger

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU, EUROPEAN BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

SHAREHOLDERS in Nationale-Nederlanden (NatNed), the Netherlands' largest insurance group, will receive improved terms for the merger with NMB Postbank, the Dutch bank.

The 15.5 billion guilder (£4.7 billion) merger, originally agreed in November, met resistance. Most shareholders are now believed to favour the deal.

NatNed shareholders will receive Ft 6.50 cash or 0.15 per cent of a share in addition to the original one new share in the merged company plus one warrant. NMB shareholders' terms are unchanged. The offer closes on March 1.

## Bullough slips to £26m



DERRICK Battle, above, chairman of Bullough, the industrial holding company, announced pre-tax profits of £26 million (£28.7 million) for the year to October 31.

Although the economic outlook is uncertain, Bullough's

financial strength and array of activities made it face the future with confidence, he said. Bullough achieved a turnover of £317.7 million (£276.4 million), and is holding the year's payment at 6.85p a share.

The group has bought Tay-

lor Freezer (UK), which sells and services American-made equipment for making ice-creams, shakes and other cold bar products, for £2.09 million cash plus the issue of 1.67 million Bullough shares.

Tempus, page 23

## Britain eats record £2.7bn of chocolate

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN enjoyed a record year for chocolate in 1990, munching through £2.7 billion worth, the equivalent of more than five bars a week for every person in the country.

Figures released yesterday by Cadbury, the chocolate maker, in its annual review of the chocolate confectionery market, showed that despite worries about health, each individual spent an average of 89p on chocolate every week.

Spending at this level meant that in spite of the recession, the chocolate market was buoyant in 1990, worth a record £3.72 billion, and the pure chocolate sector saw 3.5 per cent growth in volume.

Chocolate sells more in cash terms than most other snack foods, four times as much as is spent on crisps or ice cream, and is rivalled only by carbonated soft drinks.

Chocolate imports, previously a fashionable area of chocolate consumption, are also decreasing in significance

in the market, falling last year to 3.5 per cent of all the chocolate eaten.

John Taylor, Cadbury's marketing director, said the continued growth in chocolate was being fuelled by two trends, the growth of snacking, with some people eating more than six times a day, and the growth of gifts.

Chocolate, heavily pushed by advertising spending, which Cadbury said was up by 20 per cent in 1990, is now available at an estimated 150,000 outlets in Britain currently led by multiple grocery retailers with Christmas and Easter the peak buying times.

Nestlé, the Swiss food company, suffered from a 3.5 per cent fall in sales last year, down from SwFr48 billion (£19.4 billion) to SwFr46.3 billion. The company blames the strong Swiss franc for the fall in sales and profits. Debts have been reduced by SwFr1 billion during the period.

## Stratagem lifts bid for Touchstone to £6.1m

By PHILIP PANGALOS

THE bid battle for Touchstone Group, the computer services company, intensified after Stratagem Group, the investment company headed by Bernard Kerrison, raised its all-share hostile offer to about £6.1 million.

Stratagem has increased its offer to one Stratagem ordinary share for every 26 Touchstone shares, against 32 shares previously.

This values Touchstone at about £6.1 million and each Touchstone ordinary share at about 6.1p, compared with

Stratagem's previous £4.6 million offer.

Touchstone's board has recommended a £6 million cash offer from Geonetics, a Dutch computer services company listed in Amsterdam. Geonetics is offering 6p for each Touchstone share and £32 for each £100 nominal loan stock.

Stratagem claims to speak for 37.4 per cent of Touchstone ordinary shares and 30.6 per cent of loan stock, which could be used to block future resolutions.

## Spending boosts US recession hopes

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

AMERICAN personal income and expenditure grew more rapidly than expected in December, the American commerce department reported yesterday, adding to evidence that the recession may be less harsh in America than many economists had thought.

Personal income and expenditure both increased 0.7 per cent in December. Market economists surveyed by Reuters, the news agency, had predicted that income would rise 0.4 per cent and spending 0.2 per cent. The stronger than expected figures appeared to reinforce last Friday's fourth quarter gross national product figures, which showed a smaller than expected decline of 2.1 per cent at an annual rate.

The Japanese government, meanwhile, announced that industrial production fell in December for the second month running, suggesting that a slowdown in the Japanese economy may have started last autumn. The 0.5 per cent seasonally adjusted fall in industrial production in December followed a 1 per cent decline the month before and marked the first successive monthly decline in three years.

Japan's industrial output grew 4.6 per cent last year, after 4.5 per cent in 1989. The ministry of international trade and industry said production of precision instruments, petroleum and coal products, and transport machinery was particularly strong. Sectors suffering from reduced output included the textile, furniture and mining industries.

In December alone, the index of mining and manufacturing grew 6.3 per cent from a year earlier, down from a revised 6.8 per cent in November.

Downing Street said this year's world economic summit, bringing together the heads of government of the seven leading industrialised nations and the president of the European Commission, would take place in London on July 15 to 17.

## New finance chief at Tootal

TOOTAL Group has a new finance director, in its second senior boardroom change within two weeks. David Williams, who joined Tootal in 1982, replaces Alan Webb, who becomes a non-executive director.

The appointment, made within days of Tootal's January 31 year-end, follows the recent resignation of Geoffrey Maddrell, chief executive, who was replaced by Anthony Hatgood.

## Dunhill switch

Sir Penh, managing director of Dunhill Holdings for three years, has taken early retirement for personal reasons. Lord Douro, deputy chairman and chairman-designate in July, will assume his executive responsibilities "for the time being".

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Receivers cut 70 jobs at Styral Holdings

Grant Thornton, the accountant, has been appointed receiver to Styral Holdings, the kitchen manufacturer and distributor, which has plants in Deeside, North Wales, Rochdale, Salford and Worsley. So far 70 jobs have been lost out of the 500-strong workforce.

The receivers hope they will be able to sell the businesses within the group as going concerns. The management of one part of the group, Wilson & Glick kitchens in Salford Quays, is to buy out that business. The 180 employees will retain their jobs and all outstanding customer contracts will be honoured.

### Triplex Lloyd sells division

TRIPLEX Lloyd has sold Lee Bessley Deritend, its electrical engineering division, to Compagnie Générale des Eaux de France for an initial £7.9 million. The buyer will assume a £3 million overdraft, and an extra profit-related payment will depend on average net profits of Deritend over three accounting periods to December 1992.

### Resort Hotels rises 39%

RESORT Hotels, the Brighton hotelier, lifted pre-tax profits 39 per cent to £2.31 million in the six months to end-October. Turnover advanced 34 per cent to £6.09 million. Earnings were 4.88p (4.25p). The interim dividend is 1.2p (1.1p). Interest receipts were £652,000 (£578,000). Shares rose 5p to 55p.

### Benson back in black

BENSON Group, the heating and engineering group, is back in the black in the first half after stemming losses at its agricultural machinery businesses, cutting group overheads and reducing borrowings. The company made a pre-tax profit of £35,000 in the six months to end-November, compared with a £490,000 loss last time. Interest costs have been cut from £248,000 to £113,000. Gearing is in the "high sixties", but should be further reduced by year-end.

Turnover declined from £6.37 million to £5.4 million. Earnings per share stood at 0.07p (1.27p loss). Again, there is no interim dividend. The company is in discussions with several parties interested in acquiring the right to manufacture its agricultural machinery.

### Steel group places shares

GRAHAM Wood, the structural steel group, has strengthened its balance sheet through a placement of preference shares that will raise £637,000. The funds will be used to refinance a large proportion of the purchase price of Dueson, the Dutch steel fabricating company, which was acquired in December for about £785,000.

### Profits soar at Printech

PRINTECH International, the Dublin computer manual printer quoted on the USM, increased pre-tax profits from Ir£1.85 million to Ir£3.27 million (£3 million) in the year to end-December. On turnover ahead from Ir£15.8 million to Ir£19.3 million. Earnings per share rose from 6.4p to 9.7p. There is a dividend of 2p (1.1p) for the year.

### Anglo Park in dispute

ANGLO Park, the property group, has become involved in a legal battle against Richard Ellis, the chartered surveyor, over a building in Oxford Street, London. St James Estates, a private property company where Anglo has a 22 per cent stake, has issued a writ against Ellis alleging negligence and claiming damages for an allegedly over-optimistic valuation of the property two years ago. St James could lose several million pounds on the building, and could force Anglo to write down part of its £1.24 million stake. The company bought the building in December 1989 for £7.75 million. Ellis valued it at £9.7 million provided St James obtained further planning permission. St James has been unable to sell the building's freehold, however, and has asked another surveyor to revalue it.

## WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily ch/g (%)	Yearly ch/g (%)	Daily ch/g (%)	Yearly ch/g (%)	Daily ch/g (%)	Yearly ch/g (%)
The World	574.8	-0.3	-31.9	0.3	-22.2	0.2	-16.9
(free)	109.9	-0.3	-31.9	0.2	-22.2	0.2	-17.0
EAPE	984.4	-0.2	-36.8	0.1	-30.8	0.3	-23.0
(free)	101.1	-0.2	-36.9	0.0	-31.0	0.3	-23.1
Europe	586.3	0.2	-22.7	0.3	-19.6	0.7	-5.8
(free)	127.1	0.1	-22.2	0.0	-19.4	0.6	-5.2
Nth America	421.3	-0.3	-21.7	0.2	-4.5	0.2	-4.6
Nordic	1112.5	2.0	-28.5	2.4	-22.6	2.6	-12.9
(free)	182.5	1.9	-22.4	2.3	-16.4	2.4	-5.4
Pacific	2191.2	-0.5	-44.8	-0.1	-37.6	0.0	-32.7
Far East	3175.8	-0.6	-45.1	-0.1	-38.4	0.0	-33.1
Australia	232.6	0.3	-33.0	0.0	-17.7	0.8	-18.4
Austria	1187.6	-0.5	-19.4	-0.1	-13.6	0.0	-1.8
Belgium	678.0	0.0	-31.3	0.2	-27.8	0.5	-16.2
Canada	412.6	-0.3	-31.3	-0.1	-16.0	0.2	-16.2
Denmark	1075.0	-0.3	-18.3	0.1	-13.4	0.2	-0.5
Finland	59.6	-0.4	-48.3	0.1	-43.8	0.1	-37.0
(free)	81.6	0.7	-45.2	1.2	-40.5	1.3	-33.3
France	575.0	0.1	-28.8	0.3	-24.1	0.7	-13.2
Germany	667.3	-0.2	-27.3	0.0	-22.1	0.3	-11.4
Hong Kong	2002.4	-0.6	-9.7	-0.1	9.9	-0.1	10.0
Italy	238.0	-0.6	-38.0	-0.5	-33.4	-0.1	-24.4
Japan	3330.2	-0.6	-46.0	-0.1	-39.5	0.0	-34.2
Netherlands	724.7	0.6	-23.4	0.0	-18.0	1.1	-6.6
New Zealand	50.5	-0.9	-51.0	-0.6	-40.8	-0.4	-40.3
Norway	1013.2	0.5	-24.5	0.9	-18.8	1.0	-9.0
(free)	177.4	0.7	-24.0	1.0	-18.3	1.2	-7.4
Singapore	1452.0	0.1	-27.2	0.6	-19.4	0.6	-11.3
Spain	167.0	0.0	-29.5	0.1	-26.7	0.5	-14.0
Sweden	1244.8	4.0	-25.0	4.3	-22.4	4.5	-13.5
(free)	184.1	4.9	-23.9	5.3	-16.8	5.5	-7.3
Switzerland	719.1	0.4	-21.4	1.0	-21.5	0.9	-4.2
(free)	109.1	0.4	-21.4	1.0	-22.0	1.0	-4.7
UK	630.8	0.0	-12.5	0.0	-12.5	0.6	6.6
USA	382.5	-0.3	-20.8	0.2	-3.5	0.2	-3.5

(p) Local currency.

Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

## RECENT ISSUES

Equities	Price	Change
Admiral Resources	37	+1
Abertis Sntir Cos	35	+1
Brabant Rte	145	+1
CNN Group	25-1	+1
Casale Carr (50p)	30	+1
EDU Tst	36	+1
EFM Java Tst	35	+1
Fiber Press	145	+1
Golden Vale	140-2	+1
Invergordon	32	+1
Lowther	140-2	+1
MMI	19	+1
Malaysian Capital	39p	+1
Midland Radio	95	+1
Paramount	9p	+1
Polican Gp	17-1	+1

## TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
January 21	February 1	April 26	May 7
Call options were taken out on 28/1/91	Adia Group, Ariva Plc, Concor Secs, Ford		
Seller Morris, Henry Oil & Gas, Sante Group, Times Resources.			
Puts: Applvare, Ladbroke Ramblers, P&P, Put & Call: Tasker Resources.			

## MAJOR CHANGES

Rises:	Falls:
Alfred Lyons	288 1/2p (-24p)
Bass	231 1/2p (-10p)
Grand Met	640 1/2p (-13p)
Greentalk Whitley	205p (-10p)
Scott & Newcastle	725p (-10p)
Whitbread 'A'	437 1/2p (-10p)
Whitbread 'B'	102p (-10p)
Whitbread 'C'	344 1/2p (-10p)

## FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
Abbey Nat	3,883	Cadbury	820
Adia Group	1,376	CU	364
Anglian	356	Courtaulds	15
ASDA	2,272	Dunelm	438
Avon	2,272	Emirates	911
Avon Foods	1,511	Euromoney	1,200
BAA	1,973	Fluoro	1,178
BAT	2,410	Gen Acc	325
BAT 'A'	1,243	ICI	5,772
BAT 'B'	1,243	ICI 'A'	1,243
BAT 'C'	1,243	ICI 'B'	1,243
BAT 'D'	1,243	ICI 'C'	1,243
BAT 'E'	1,243	ICI 'D'	1,243
BAT 'F'	1,243	ICI 'E'	1,243
BAT 'G'	1,243	ICI 'F'	1,243
BAT 'H'	1,243	ICI 'G'	1,243
BAT 'I'	1,243	ICI 'H'	1,243
BAT 'J'	1,243	ICI 'I'	1,243
BAT 'K'	1,243	ICI 'J'	1,243
BAT 'L'	1,243	ICI 'K'	1,243
BAT 'M'	1,243	ICI 'L'	1,243
BAT 'N'	1,243	ICI 'M'	1,243
BAT 'O'	1,243	ICI 'N'	1,243
BAT 'P'	1,243	ICI 'O'	1,243
BAT 'Q'	1,243	ICI 'P'	1,243
BAT 'R'	1,243	ICI 'Q'	1,243
BAT 'S'	1,243	ICI 'R'	1,243
BAT 'T'	1,243	ICI 'S'	1,243
BAT 'U'	1,243	ICI 'T'	1,243
BAT 'V'	1,243	ICI 'U'	1,243
BAT 'W'	1,243	ICI 'V'	1,243
BAT 'X'	1,243	ICI 'W'	1,243
BAT 'Y'	1,243	ICI 'X'	1,243



## Breaking down US airline barriers

### COMMENT

Bilateral negotiations between Britain and American aviation regulators start today against a deeply troubled background. Bookings have slumped since the outbreak of hostilities in the Gulf and at Heathrow stories abound of jumbo jets arriving from New York with handfuls of paying passengers on board.

But the Gulf conflict merely heightens long standing pressures for reform of what remains one of the world's most protected international businesses. Solutions for some of the industry's more spectacular financial basket cases like Pan Am and TWA have become even more pressing now that revenues are shrinking fast.

The British negotiators therefore go to the table, unusually, with a handful of strong cards and much is expected of them.

Industry sources say that if they finish the round of negotiations without having priced an extra £200 million of business from the United States an opportunity will have been missed.

Top of the American agenda is the need for Britain to approve

planned TWA and Pan Am sales of their Heathrow routes to better financed US companies. Pan Am has agreed a price of \$290 million for its slots to United Airlines while American Airlines is willing to part with \$445 million to buy TWA's landing rights. Both these agreements need the approval of Britain, first in changing the rules that restrict access to Heathrow and second in incorporating specific approvals into a new bilateral agreement. Meanwhile the cash problems of the would-be sellers are mounting.

America will be seeking assurances that the latest recommendations of the Civil Aviation Authority to open up Heathrow will be given the blessing of Whitehall. This is thorny ground and Britain should take care that it does nothing to waste ammunition that could be put to good use during the programme of airline deregulation within the European Community. The British

negotiators will be pressing for greater access to the vast American domestic market which accounts for close to 40 per cent of the world's airline passengers. They should not be impressed by the apparent relaxation of strict rules limiting foreign investment in American airlines. This permits shareholdings of up to 49 per cent, but there is no relaxation on the 25 per cent ceiling on voting control. American refusal to permit foreign control over its airline operations is the largest single bone of contention between the two countries. Changes here would require Congressional approval and would take time and some persuasion. Britain's chances of success have never been better though.

While these major issues will not be resolved easily, it would be

relatively simple for America to make a gesture of good intent by allowing British carriers greater ability to pick up passengers in the United States and fly them on to further domestic destinations. Lack of progress here would mark the bilaterals as a failure.

### Taurus delay

The Stock Exchange started planning paperless share trading, which replaces share certificates by computer entries, in 1980. The Taurus project was filed away to accommodate the 1986 Big Bang and brought out again only after the near collapse of the settlements system during 1987. In that context, the announced delay of a few months from the proposed introduction of the

system in October would be trivial, but only the brave would bet that it will start going live in a year's time.

The trade department, rather than any technical computer problems, finally destroyed the original schedule. The DTI produced its first draft of the legal changes needed only last Friday, just after the Exchange abandoned its timetable, and was not happy for companies booked as pioneers, notably BP and Barclays, to change their articles of association to accommodate Taurus before the regulations were fully worked out.

The old timetable depended heavily on the trade department's commitment to put the changes to the required parliamentary debates before the summer recess. If this schedule is now missed, there could be further delay. Since the intended pioneers will not hold another annual meeting until April 1992, John Watson, who is in charge of

the project for the exchange, will also have to draft in a new cast.

Delay has been greeted with a sigh of relief by firms behind with their software and by small brokers worried about the regulatory consequence and expense. Although the system is supposedly foolproof, brokers will be at the sharp end if things go wrong. A new compensation fund for clients and compulsory insurance will be needed. Neither investor protection, nor the detailed questions of who regulates what, have been fully worked out.

Private client brokers have genuine fears that the ensuing abolition of the fortnightly account will lose them business. Even so, the securities industry cannot afford long delays.

Firms trying to rationalise will have to keep their expensive back office paperwork operations longer and the hope that abolition of residual stamp duty might stimulate turnover will have to be deferred. Now that the need for paperless trading has been established, the sooner it can safely be brought in the better.

## German firm turns page of British mail order history



Sales talk: David Jones of Next may sell Grattan

THE British mail order industry, which has been in gentle decline for years, is about to be dragged kicking and screaming into the Nineties by Otto Versand of Germany.

About 40 per cent of Britain's £3.9 billion mail order market is up for sale, including Littlewoods, the No 2 player, and Grattan, Britain's fourth largest.

Otto, the world's biggest international mail order company, is in talks with David Jones, chief executive of the ailing Next group, to buy its Grattan subsidiary.

Observers of the sector are now wondering about who will buy Littlewoods. Otto may be interested but has a reputation for tackling one problem at a time. It is reported to have reluctantly turned down the opportunity to buy Empire Stores several years ago because it was then buying Spiegel of Chicago.

Quelle, another German group, and La Redoute, the French company, are possible contenders. If the talks between Otto and Grattan succeed, the consequences for Britain's remaining mail order groups could be enormous.

Great Universal Stores (GUS), the biggest with 36.3 per cent of the market, stands to lose most, analysts say. Empire Stores, which only last week announced further redundancies, looks vulnerable.

Freemans, part of the Sears empire, is a strong business that is likely to stand up well to competition, but the City believes the group will have scored a tactical own goal if it allows Otto to buy Grattan, unchallenged.

Sears, which has a small stake in Next, seemed the most likely candidate to buy Grattan before its foreign suitor appeared. There is a small possibility that Sears may look at Littlewoods' mail order but it would not be the match for Freemans that Grattan is perceived to be.

Otto was set up by Werner Otto in 1949 and is now

headed by his son Michael. It is a privately owned group and is among the top three mail order houses in western Europe, competing with Quelle, also privately owned, for the top slot in Germany. Otto is dominant in the world market, however, and it has achieved this by acquiring foreign mail order groups. The company has large market shares in France, Italy, Spain

and America. It is also making headway in Japan. Otto has a reputation for keeping operating costs low, exploiting economies of scale, and is known for its design and marketing ability. Some believe it may be able to target customers with a success that has eluded competitors.

Richard Hyman of Verdick, the market research company, says Grattan is the ideal vehicle for Otto's entry to the British market. "Grattan has suffered from falling demand along with the rest of the industry. Because of the problems at Next, morale is low but fundamentally it is a sound business," he says.

Otto could bring greater efficiency to the business. Mail order is a volume-driven business, more so even than other parts of the retail sector. Fixed costs are high and tend not to lessen with lower volumes. Management of costs is critical and Otto has proven expertise in this area.

Otto has taken market share from the main players in the foreign markets where it operates and this is likely to happen in Britain. GUS's share of the market fell by 3 per cent in 1989 and whoever takes on Littlewoods' mail order could find Otto a tough competitor.

Otto's range of products and buying power are enormous. One British mail order retailer who knows the group says its methodical computerised approach gives it detailed knowledge of its customers that allows precise targeting. He expects the group to launch several catalogues in Britain, focusing on older people, cost-conscious customers or up-to-date mobile workers.

When Otto buys a mail order company in a country where it is already active, it is always a business that tackles a different social or demographic sector, hence its expertise in a range of catalogues. With the exception of Next Directory and N Brown, the British groups have been largely unsuccessful in targeting customers. This is mostly because they have launched "specialised" mini-catalogues that have been cheap to produce but do not appeal to enough customers to offset the high fixed costs of mail order.

Otto succeeds through its ability to target large consumer groups with a cohesive range of products that suits their needs.

GILLIAN BOWDITCH

## Cold comfort as Bullough takes a dip

### TEMPUS

ON a cold January morning, and at a time when companies are hardly spending on their staff, let alone on office furniture, Bullough put a brave face on its 1990 results and on its latest acquisition - an ice-cream equipment maker.

It also tried to put a brave face on prospects for this year but the market needs some convincing that 1991 will not be another tough one.

Pre-tax profits of £26 million for the year ended October 31, against £28.7 million, were a shade better than expected, but with almost half operating profit coming from office products, the path ahead can hardly be easy.

Historic contracts continue to give various divisions a busy workload, and a £1 million office contract for Saudi Arabia was completed and paid for just before the Gulf war. Profits from electrical operations, up at the operating level from £1.31 million to £2.16 million, were helped by earlier investment in new products and facilities development.

But after progressive dividend increases on the back of rising profits, the 1990 payment is a maintained 6.05p a share. Only when earnings are rising again can dividends be expected to improve.

The odds are that Bullough will have lower profits again in

1991, possibly about £19.5 million, though at least the balance sheet, with gearing down from 40 per cent to 28 per cent, is in reasonable shape.

At 91p the yield is 8.9 per cent, while the prospective p/e is 8.6, but neither is sufficient compensation to make up for the general economic and market uncertainty.

### Jacques Vert

JACQUES Vert, the clothing manufacturer and retailer, had a difficult first half with a near 50 per cent decline in pre-tax profits. But Jack Cynamon, the joint chairman, is confident none the less.

He says the profits shortfall is due not to the recession but to one-off nasties, such as problems with garment pricing, which cost the group about £1 million, and lower margins on last autumn's collection. The charitable view is if Jacques Vert sorts out its gearing ratio and recovers from the one-off problems it is well positioned to ride out the recession. The uncharitable view is that recessionary problems are yet to come. Pre-tax profits fell from £2.37 million to £1.23 million for the six months to

October while sales rose 6 per cent to £20.2 million. Earnings per share fell from 16.1p to 8.1p but the interim dividend has been maintained at 4p.

There was an extraordinary charge of £325,000. The gearing ratio is about 65 per cent.

The group has completed some sale and leasebacks and is cutting capital expenditure to almost nothing in the second half in order to reduce gearing. Jacques Vert has all but withdrawn from America, where three shops remain.

The group cannot expect to avoid completely the effects of the recession and the Gulf war, although it is reporting record orders for the spring collection. Assuming pre-tax profits of £3.3 million for the year, the shares at 141p are trading on 6.5 times earnings. They are unlikely to take off again until gearing comes under control.

### Menvier-Swain

IT WAS hardly a profits warning from Menvier-Swain Group, but given that the company has until now shown resilience in the face of recession, news that improvements in the first half will not be repeated in the second was

bound to damage the share price.

After all, the first-half improvement - a mere 3 per cent advance in earnings per share - was scarcely in the quantum leap category despite the tremendous strides in Europe, now contributing over a third of total profits against 10 per cent less than two years ago.

With 60 per cent of its output destined for new buildings, not even Menvier-Swain can stay immune from a 25 per cent fall in commercial and industrial building, and close followers now believe it will fall short of the £5.47 million pre-tax figure for the year ended last April.

In deciding to unload the loss-making American arm and the British service operations, M-S is helping ensure a return to the growth path next year. However the sales will hardly impinge on the balance sheet, where gearing remains about 70 per cent. The interest bill almost tripled to £429,000 in the first half, but interest cover is an impressive seven times.

A fall of 25p to 213p leaves the shares on a p/e of 9, assuming a pre-tax £5.1 million, but no recovery is likely until the fate of the departing Christopher Swain's 22 per cent shareholding is clear.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### A hard sell to find salesmen

DESPITE the supposed mass redundancies in the Square Mile, one securities house is finding it so difficult to track down good equity salesmen that it is offering its own employees a dinner for two, in a champagne restaurant, if they can recommend a prospective employee who, in due course, is offered and accepts a job. Paribas London, the British division of the French bank, has been trying in vain to find six sales people to cover the French, German, Italian, Scandinavian, Scottish and British markets. "We are looking for good quality, experienced sales people, or if not, fluent (in the language)," not, Quent (in the language), head of sales at Cartwright, head of equities. "I know a lot of people have been laid off, but it seems that the good people are not moving, or are not available for other reasons. We're having real problems finding the right people."

Paribas is, however, cock-a-hoop about one equity analyst who has signed up. It has persuaded a 39-year-old Philip Morgan, aged 39, a Lyon specialist with Credit Lyonnais, to join Paribas on February 21. Formerly in the oil industry - he spent ten years at BP's supply and corporate planning departments - Morgan moved into the City in 1982, joining Warburg. He then worked briefly for SBC Savory Milin and Citicorp. Morgan is

well known for alternating between blue and red rimmed spectacles, to match the mood of the stock market. "I wore the blue pair and kept the red pair in my drawer, putting them on if the market went down. It was several months before people twigged that I kept one pair in my drawer. They thought I had prior knowledge." His cover has been blown.

### Cotton club search

DEBENTURE holders who have held on to their investment in three Russian cotton factories are about to be rewarded for their patience. Taking its mind off internal cost-cutting measures, Ernst & Young, the accountant, is seeking investors in the Anglo-Russian Cotton Factories, whose assets were seized when the Tsar was overthrown. Compensation will be paid

under a deal negotiated between the British and Soviet governments to settle all financial claims dating back to the Tsarist era. Neil Arthur at Ernst & Young's office at Luton says the debentures were issued in 1897 and claims should reach him by April 15. "About £330,000 plus interest is outstanding, but the debentures were issued to bearer so it is impossible to know where they all are now," says Arthur. But he declines to speculate on how much in the pound investors will be paid, explaining: "That depends on the number of claimants. I know quite a lot of them already."

GRAFFITO spotted by a reader on a hoarding in Taunton, Somerset: "Noah was the first bureaucrat. He filed two of everything."

### Back to the future

ROBIN Aspinall, the currency strategist whose daily bulletins to corporate clients have become compulsory reading because of their uncanny accuracy in predicting market and currency movements, has left Hoare Govett after 18 months and returned from whence he came. Schroder Wagg Aspinall, aged 41, apparently found his wings somewhat clipped at Hoare. "He is a very talented individual and has a tremendous following because he is outspoken and has an uncanny knack of getting it right. He is better suited to the less structured regime at Schroders,"

says a delighted Alasdair Menzies, director of UK equities. Aspinall, now a key member of Schroders' treasury and trading division, follows the Japanese, American and British economies and their currencies. His latest predictions are for the dollar to continue weakening, reaching \$2.04 against sterling in the medium term. As for equities, he has given warning that for both the FT-SE index and the Dow Jones industrial average "the odds favour a temporary move upwards, a move best left to the traders."

### Room for change

ANOTHER great tradition dies. Lombro is changing the venue of its March 21 annual meeting from the Grosvenor House hotel, Park Lane, to the Barbican Centre. Announcing the move to shareholders, Tiny Rowland, the chief executive, said: "Now for the bad news." It is all to do with chair space. Rowland said that Grosvenor House was overflowing each year and that many shareholders were unable to find a seat. Last year, it was virtually fighting room only on the balcony. "I hope it won't deter you from coming along on March 21," Rowland added.

PINT-SIZED Sixties pop star-turned-businessman and Savoy Hotel director Adam Faith is said to be starring in a new musical, Who Famed Roger Levitt.

CAROL LEONARD

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Mr/Ms/Miss/Ms/Ms (please specify) Surname

Forname

Address

Postcode

Date of Birth

Spouse Partner's Date of Birth

Occupation

Spouse Partner's Occupation

Phone no (for STD) Daytime

Number of bedrooms (please tick)

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Washly

**The prices in this section refer to Friday's trading**

## MONEY MARKETS

[illegible]



## Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your daily dividend figure. If it matches the prize money stated, you win. Follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	MEPC (a)	Property	
2	Land Ser	Property	
3	Wellcome	Industrial S-Z	
4	HTV Group	Leisure	
5	Wardle Stores plc	Chemicals, Plastics	
6	Prismair	Property	
7	Wainman	Industrial E-K	
8	SA Broom	Electricals	
9	Bank of Scotland	Bank, Discount	
10	RHM	Food	
11	Miles	Industrial L-R	
12	Bellon (P)	Property	
13	GKN (a)	Industrial E-K	
14	BOC	Industrial A-D	
15	Kimberly-Clark	Bank, Discount	
16	Croda	Chemicals, Plastics	
17	Devenish (JA)	Breweries	
18	Bulfinch	Industrial S-Z	
19	Tadpole H	Industrial A-D	
20	2B Food	Food	
21	Canterbury Elec	Electricals	
22	Rocton	Industrial L-R	
23	Synthal Seeds	Industrial S-Z	
24	Cumum	Building, Roads	
25	Rough Group	Building, Roads	
26	Bryant	Building, Roads	
27	Taylor Woodrow	Building, Roads	
28	Moumvis	Property	
29	Lloyds	Bank, Discount	
30	Suter	Industrial S-Z	
31	Medway	Industrial L-R	
32	Sainsbury J	Food	
33	Admiral	Bank, Discount	
34	Grampian Hg	Industrial E-K	
35	Flur An Dev	Drugs, Stores	
36	Unigate	Food	
37	Sprybank	Property	
38	Devi Chem	Chemicals, Plastics	
39	Grayco	Industrial A-D	
40	Balcock	Industrial A-D	
41	Be Airways	Transport	
42	Time Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

The £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize was won yesterday by Mrs Cheng Loo, of Harrow, Middlesex.

### BRITISH FUNDS

1990/91 High Low Stock Price Opts % Chg % Yld

#### SHORTS (Under Five Years)

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## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Gains in thin trading

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began yesterday. Dealings end February 8. Contango day February 11. Settlement day February 18.  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	% Yld	P/E
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High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	% Yld	P/E
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BUILDING, ROADS									
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This new emphasis is reflected in a high proportion of the vacancies now being notified to us. We are being asked for candidates who can bring work with them - either an existing following or a network of contacts. Virtually every residential conveyancing vacancy on our books, for instance, requires a candidate who can go out and cultivate clients. And the same applies to a large number of vacancies in other areas: insolvency, intellectual property, commercial, corporate and financial, etc. The business-minded lawyer, with a zest for self-motivated work, is in high demand. (The 'rainmaker' is now in demand.)

Two or three years ago, the firm which needed a rainmaker was regarded with some suspicion: it tended to be the small firm anxious to expand into a new area of the law. Most firms did not want to take on extra work; they barely had the staff to cope with their existing workload. Today, the picture is entirely different. Almost all firms would be delighted to recruit a rainmaker and even those in large firms in the City.

Michael Chambers

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# Justice with a price tag

Frank Robinson was charged with capital murder in Jamaica. On the day of his trial, his lawyer did not turn up. Jamaica, unlike Britain, does not have barristers who are specialist advocates. The reason his lawyer did not appear was because he had not been paid. Mr Robinson could not afford to pay, so the judge asked the lawyer to undertake the case on legal aid. The lawyer knew the legal aid rates and he told the judge that his firm did not do legal aid work, so Mr Robinson had to defend himself.

He was not a skilled lawyer. He could not cross-examine. He did not call all the witnesses who could say he was somewhere else when the murder was committed. His speech to the jury took all of three minutes. He was found guilty and sentenced to death.

If you end up in a similar predicament in Britain, do not expect too much from the common law. Mr Robinson appealed to the Board of the Privy Council, which applied common law principles. There is no right to legal representation and the appeal was dismissed. The decision was criticised at the United Nations, but the board was only applying the common law.

This is only one of many deficiencies in the common law in the area of individual rights. Perhaps you can understand why many lawyers say it is time we had, like other countries, a written constitution that establishes basic

For a legal system to be just, the rich and poor must have access to the same barristers, argues

Anthony Scrivener, QC. Legal aid case work must stay mandatory

## LEGAL BRIEF

rights. The problem is that written constitutions giving rights to individuals are never popular with governments, as they are usually the defendant in such proceedings. Most people need legal aid if they are injured in a car accident or at work or they find themselves a defendant in a criminal case. Could the same situation arise here as happened in the Robinson case?

A decreasing number of solicitors undertake legal aid cases. Many say they cannot afford to do so. There are organisations such as Law Centres and Citizens Advice Bureaux manned by dedicated barristers and solicitors who sometimes earn rather less than their clients. They give an invaluable service, but their funding is always under threat. The number of such centres is falling. You may get Liberty (formerly the National Council for Civil Liberties) to act for you and, although it has the same level of expertise and number of hard working officials as other organisations, it has no secure method of funding. You may be lucky and find another specialist body to help you, but you will not find one that is adequately funded.

The legal system is for the people and not for the lawyers or

the judiciary. We are all servants of the community and if our system does not cater for those who need legal aid, then it does not deserve to be called a system of justice. The same quality of advice and representation should be available to those on modest or no income as to the rich, the prosecution and large companies.

It is not good enough to say that we will find you a lawyer somewhere who is not successful enough to have given up legal aid work or who might be persuaded to take your case as an act of charity.

The Bar accepts these principles and it is a rule of professional conduct that no barrister may refuse to undertake a case on the grounds that it is a legal aid case. We are not allowed to refuse a case because the cause is unpopular or the case is difficult. Under the rules, a legal aid fee is deemed to be reasonable. A barrister cannot say: "I do not do legal aid work."

There is another aspect to this duty. In many countries the publicly funded work is left to the young and inexperienced; something to do when you first qualify until you get good enough to get the paid cases. You will find a

lawyer who has just qualified defending in murder and other serious cases. The inadequate legal aid system means that lawyers often take on cases on a "pay if I win" basis. Lawyers regularly keep about 40 per cent of the damages if successful. This money should have been given to the injured person who needs it, not the lawyer. So this is why we are not in favour of contingency fees, as they are called, and we are in favour of a proper legal aid system run by advocates bound to take such cases as a matter of professional duty.

Any solicitor in Britain can instruct any barrister to undertake the advocacy for a client. Our rules dictate that the smallest firm of solicitors in the smallest village has access to the same barristers as the big City firms. This means also that the same barristers are available to those on legal aid as those who can afford to pay. The murder case and the claim for damages for a brain-damaged child are not left to the inexperienced just because they are legal aid cases. You get the same barristers who are available to the prosecution and to the insurance company.

As the advisory committee set up under the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 begins its work,



we shall be very alert to the possibility of the new machinery being used to produce a second-class service for those on legal aid. The Bar has accepted a moral commitment that all who receive legal aid should have access to the same quality of advice and representation as those who can afford to pay. We shall work to make the legal aid system more

cost-effective and efficient. Legal aid should be available to employees who sue for unfair dismissal in industrial tribunals and lawyers should not be expected to wait 18 months to be paid. Any company that operated on this basis would soon go out of business. However, we shall not give way on this commitment. How it all works out remains to

be seen. We wait to see whether the "new" government turns a more caring face towards those of limited means who require support from public funds. The Bar hopes this government will make the same public commitment that the Bar has done. We do not want any Frank Robinson cases here. The author is the chairman of the Bar.

## Law Report January 29 1991 Court of Appeal

### Fear for one's own life is no defence in charge of attempted murder

Regina v Gots

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Owen and Mr Justice Pill

[Judgment January 23]

Duress was not available as a defence to attempted murder and the fact that the attempt failed to kill should make no difference.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by Benjamin Zebede Isiah Gots against his conviction of attempted murder of his mother. He changed his plea to guilty after a ruling at Chelmsford Crown Court (Judge Rant, QC) and was put on probation with certain conditions for three years.

The judge had certified the case fit for appeal on a point of law, namely, whether duress was available as a defence to a charge of attempted murder. The Court

of Appeal certified that as a point of law of general public importance but refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Mr David Farrer, QC and Mr Charles Miskin for the appellant; Mr Graham Parkins, QC and Mr Simon Spence for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the history of events entailed an appalling catalogue of violence, depravity and abuse. The appellant's contention was that he, then aged 16, had been ordered by his father to kill his mother under the threat that, if he did not do so, he himself would be shot.

The mother who had taken herself off with two of the younger children to a women's aid refuge at Chelmsford, had obtained an injunction against the husband. She left the refuge

to take one of the children to school.

The appellant, as ordered by his father and armed with a knife supplied by his father, had concealed himself on the route which he knew she would take. He ran up behind her and stabbed her.

He was restrained by bystanders but she had suffered serious injuries and if she had not had urgent medical treatment she might well have died. There was no doubt that he had intended to kill his mother. There seemed to have been little doubt that what he said about his father was true.

Duress as a defence to murder, at least in modern times, had had a chequered history. Earlier commentators were in no doubt that it was not a defence to murder, no distinction being drawn between the

various degrees of participation in the crime.

In DPP for Northern Ireland v Lynch (1975) AC 633 a majority of the House of Lords held that a principal in the second degree was entitled to advance the defence of duress. In Abbott v The Queen (1977) AC 755 a majority of the Privy Council held that duress was not open to the person who had actually done the killing, the principal in the first degree.

A study of the speeches in Abbott, particularly that of Lord Simon of Glaisdale, revealed how deep was the division between the majority views in Abbott and those in Lynch. As textbook writers pointed out, the situation was unsatisfactory because the principal in the first degree was by no means always the most blameworthy of those involved and in many situations might be the instigator of and

the prime mover in the killing.

In R v Howe (1987) AC 417 the anomaly was resolved. The House of Lords chose to deny the defence to both categories, the principal in the second degree and the actual killer.

Mr Farrer's argument, in essence, was that throughout the history of the common law the defence of duress had been available in respect of all crimes with the exception of murder and some forms of treason. Hale's History of the Pleas of the Crown (1736, vol 1 p 351) stated the principle that "if a man be desperately assaulted and in peril of death, and cannot otherwise escape, unless to satisfy his assailant's fury he will kill an innocent person then pressed to do so, he is not guilty of murder, if he commit the facts; for he ought

rather to die himself, than kill an innocent."

Blackstone's Commentaries (2nd edition (1766) Book IV p30) stated: "... therefore, though a man be violently assaulted, and hath no other possible means of escaping death, but by killing an innocent person; this fear and force shall not acquit him of murder, for he ought rather to die himself, than escape by the murder of an innocent."

In 1883, Sir James Stephen's History of the Criminal Law of England, dealing with the concept of compulsion by a husband over his wife, which had a close affinity to the question of duress with which their Lordships were at present concerned, (vol II p105) stated: "It is uncertain how far this principle applies to felonies in general. It does not apply to high treason or murder. It probably does not apply to robbery. It applies to uttering counterfeit coin. It seems to apply to misdemeanours generally."

Section 47 of the Criminal Justice Act 1925 abolished any presumption of law that an offence committed by a wife in the presence of her husband was committed under the coercion of her husband and gave her a good defence to prove that any offence other than treason or murder was committed in the presence of and under the coercion of her husband.

The appellant's contention was that, over many years, pressure had been put on her to commit the offence and yet nowhere, apart from a Royal Commission report in 1879 (C 2345) to which different considerations applied, was it suggested that attempted murder should be excluded from the defence of duress. It was, he suggested, no part of the court's duty at the present late stage to embark on a sudden restriction of the ambit of the defence.

His Lordship said that, if it was correct that the common law recognised that there was, so to speak, a line to be drawn under murder whether by a principal in the first or second degree, then apart from treason, that was the only crime to which duress would not be an available defence, then it seemed to their Lordships that they would be bound to accept that as the law, whether they thought that was a desirable conclusion or not.

The fact that there was no binding decision on the point did not serve to weaken a rule of the common law which had stood the test of time. *Faulkner v Beir* (1884) 9 AC 605.

Other observations had been

made on that aspect of duress, by Lord Lowry, Chief Justice (1975) NI 35, 45) giving the judgment of the hearing of the appeal in Lynch before its consideration by the House of Lords; by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, Lord Chancellor, in *Howe* (at p432) and Lord Griffiths (at p445).

In Lynch no argument on the question of attempted murder, seemingly, was addressed to either the Court of Appeal in Northern Ireland or before the House of Lords.

The rules of the common law as enunciated by the early commentators were expressed at a time when the concept of crime had not yet emerged. Stephen in his History (at p222) gave the history of the manner in which the law relating to attempts to commit crimes arrived at its present state.

Russell on Crime (12th edition (1964) vol 1 p175) pointed out that it was not until the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century, so it seemed, that the idea of attempt at common law and by statute assumed, broadly speaking, the shape it now had.

His Lordship said that it could not be said that the views of the early commentators established or demonstrated a rule of the common law that the defence of duress would excuse attempted murder. Had attempted murder been perceived as a distinct and separate offence, it too would have been likely to have been the subject of a similar exclusion from the defence of duress.

Professor Kenny in his *Outlines of Criminal Law* (13th edition (1929)) considered duress *per minas* (by threats) and stated that it was a very rare defence, so rare that Stephen, in his long forensic experience, never saw a case in which it was raised.

In those circumstances, their Lordships were not constrained by a common law rule or by authority from considering whether the defence of duress did or did not extend to the offence of attempted murder.

It was not surprising that some courts and Parliamentary draftsmen had assumed that the common law drew a distinction between the attempt and the full offence, which historically speaking might not have been justified.

The answer to the question what was the rationale behind the common-law exclusion of murder itself from the defence of duress was provided by Stephen's History (chapter XVII p107): "Criminal law is itself a system of compulsion on

the widest scale. It is a collection of threats of injury to life, liberty, and property if people do commit crimes... No doubt the moral guilt of a person who commits a crime under compulsion is less than that of a person who commits it freely, but any effect which is thought proper may be given to this circumstance by a proportional mitigation of the offender's punishment."

Similar views were expressed by the Court of Appeal in *Howe* (1986) QB 626, 641, quoted by Lord Griffiths in his speech in the House of Lords that it would have been a highly dangerous relaxation in the law to allow a person who had deliberately killed, maybe a number of innocent people, to escape conviction and punishment altogether because of fear that his own life or those of his family might be in danger if he did not.

That was particularly so when the defence of duress was so easy to raise and might be so difficult for the prosecution to disprove beyond reasonable doubt, the facts of necessity being as a rule known only to the defendant.

It seemed to their Lordships that, if those considerations were well founded, the fact that the defence of duress should not make any difference.

One could imagine a situation where a man under duress fired a shotgun in order to kill two men standing together. He killed one and maimed the other. He was charged with the murder of the one who was killed and the maiming of the other. He was convicted of both offences and acquitted in relation to the other when the death of the one and the maiming of the other were caused by the same act committed with the same intent.

Their Lordships noted the suggestion that if attempt was excluded the same should apply to conspiracy and other kindred offences. There was, their Lordships considered, a legitimate distinction to be drawn between attempt and conspiracy, in that attempt was a stage further away from the completed offence than was the attempt.

Wherever the line was drawn it would be possible to suggest anomalies. It was a further consideration that if duress did not provide a defence to attempted murder, the sentence as the instant case demonstrated, could tailor the sentence to the degree of culpability which the evidence disclosed.

The judge was correct in the conclusion that he reached.

Solicitors: Gepp & Sons, Chelmsford; CPS, Chelmsford.

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Fresh Fruit Wales Ltd v Halbert and Others

Before Lord Justice Parker, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Ralph Gibson

[Judgment January 18]

If circumstances justified such a course, a court had jurisdiction under section 37 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 to make an order for an interlocutory stage an order which would not be appropriate at the final trial.

The Court of Appeal so stated dismissing an appeal by the defendants, Viv Halbert, Connie Emmott, Cameron Taylor and Alan David (who as trustees of the Ceredigion Sports and Social Club were sued on their own behalf and on behalf of all other members of the club), from the decision of Judge Hywel Moseley, QC, sitting as an additional judge of the Chancery Division in Cardiff.

The judge had on January 11, 1991, granted the application of the plaintiffs, Fresh Fruit Wales Ltd, for an interlocutory injunction ordering the defendants to hand over 22 tickets acquired under debentures issued by the Welsh Rugby Union in respect of matches for the current season, which included the

Wales v England international rugby match on January 19, 1991.

The judge also dismissed the defendants' cross-application for an order that the disputed tickets be divided equally between the plaintiffs and the defendants pending trial.

Mr Geraint Anthony Jones for the defendants; Mr Ian Murphy for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE PARKER said that the first point taken by Mr Jones was that the judge erred in concluding that he had no power to make an order other than one which gave all the tickets to either one party or the other.

That was challenged by Mr Murphy who said that the judge could only do what would finally be done at the end of the trial which meant that the judge could not give half the tickets to the plaintiffs and half to the defendants.

His Lordship could not accept that the judge had no power, if circumstances justified it, to make the order asked for by Mr Jones. Section 37(1) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 allowed the court to grant injunctions where it was "just

and convenient to do so" and section 37(2) of the Act conferred jurisdiction on the court to grant an injunction "on such terms and conditions as the court thinks just".

There was no limitation on the court to make an order at the interlocutory stage which would not be appropriate at the final trial. Accordingly, the first point made by Mr Jones succeeded.

On the basis that the court had a discretion of its own to consider what was the appropriate order to make in the circumstances, and his Lordship having no doubt that there was a high degree of probability that the plaintiffs would succeed in their action, that discretion would be exercised in the same way that the judge exercised his.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE and LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON agreed.

Solicitors: Crowley & Co, Cowbridge; Dolmans, Cardiff.

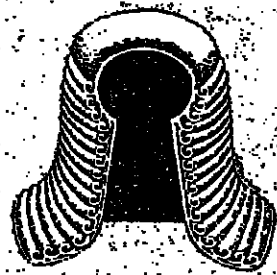
## Correction

In *Johnston v Bromsbury Heath Authority* (The Times December 21) the judge appealed from was Mr Harold Burnett QC.



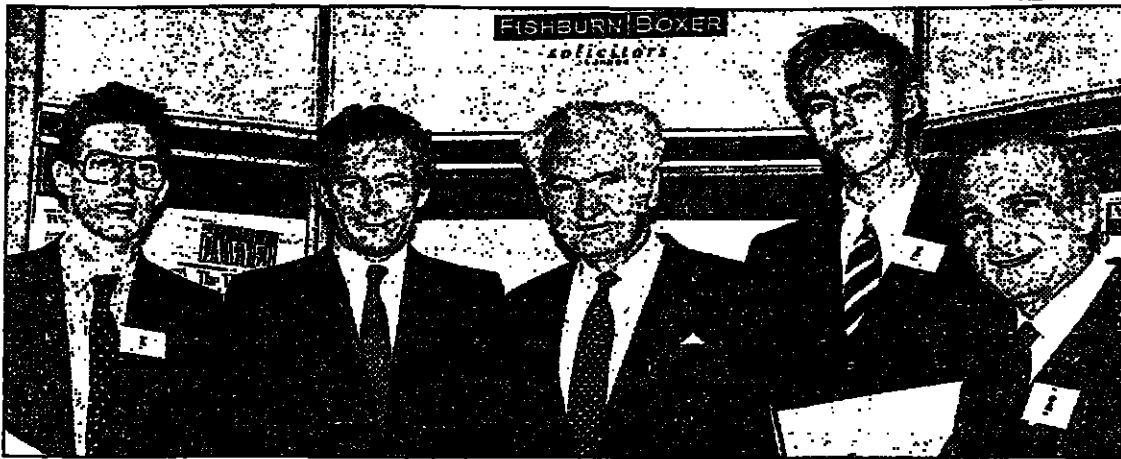
# Judgments without the facts

## The Times Law Awards winners



The debate about access to information on the Gulf war provided a timely backdrop to the presentation of the Times 1990 Law Awards by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, at the Savoy last week. Now in its third year, the competition invites students and young professionals to address topical legal issues and in 1990 the question was: "Should the law ever restrict the right to know?"

Our judges - Lord Mackay, Simon Jenkins, the Editor of *The Times*, and Clive Boxer, the senior partner of the London law firm Fishburn Boxer, who sponsored the awards - discovered there is little consensus on the subject, whether the issue is international warfare or the private lives of pop stars. On a matter that is increasingly im-



Winning team (left to right) Andrew Sparrow, runner-up; Simon Jenkins, Editor of *The Times*; Lord Mackay of Clashfern; Christopher Whitty, the winner; and Clive Boxer, senior partner at Fishburn Boxer, solicitors

portant to the functioning of a democracy, our entrants' views were diverse and divided.

The winner of the first prize is Christopher Whitty, a medical student at Wolfson College, Oxford. As his entry, published below, illustrates, Mr Whitty writes from a professional perspective and his medical insights highlight some of the implications of access to information that receive little general discussion. His stance may not win universal support but, as Mr Boxer commented: "Mr Whitty's entry was written with great conviction and his points were well expressed. He showed thoughtful-

ness and a good grip on the issues as they affect doctors."

The runner-up was Andrew Sparrow, a 24-year-old graduate from Edinburgh university, who now works as a journalist on the *South Wales Echo*. Mr Sparrow addressed the issue primarily from the journalist's viewpoint. "We all accept that there must be a few constraints to protect individuals from maverick reporters," he wrote. "The trouble starts when you consider what they should be."

Analysing the implications of the Calcutt report, which recommended that the press be given a last chance to reform itself under a regime of

self-regulation, Mr Sparrow regretted that Britain lacked a real commitment to what was in the "public interest". He concluded: "It's shameful that the 1989 Official Secrets Act does not allow a public interest defence but, if journalists were operating in a culture where the concept was taken more seriously, they would be in a much better position to demand one."

The third place was taken by another young journalist, John Blystone, who argued: "There is a greater right of knowledge: the right to know that your neighbour, your employee, your teacher does not know what you are doing at all

times." However, he concluded reluctantly that "the public's right to know is upheld not because it should not be restricted but only because it cannot be resisted".

Among the other shortlisted candidates, Shantanu Majumdar, a law student, impressed the judges with his determined call that "a commitment to freedom of information would represent a government commitment to genuine democratic accountability".

Adam Farrer, a trainee solicitor from Eversheds Wells & Hind in Birmingham, alleged that Britain today had "the worst of all worlds". He wrote: "English law attempts to restrict information concerning the working and decisions of government, while conversely it fails to protect individuals' privacy." Patrick Green, a pupil with Roger Henderson, QC, urged Britain to look to Europe for inspiration. Mr Boxer said that overall, on the question of the right to know, the entries showed a general feeling in Britain that we never seem to get to the heart of the problem. We are always having to make judgments on less than the full information.

The winners and shortlisted entrants were: 1st Christopher Whitty, aged 24, from Watford, Hertfordshire, who received £3,000; 2nd Andrew Sparrow, aged 24, from Cardiff, £2,000; 3rd John Blystone, aged 22, from London, received £1,000. Shortlisted: Adam Farrer, aged 23, from Birmingham; Patrick Green, aged 23, from London; and Shantanu Majumdar, aged 23, from Barnet, Hertfordshire.

## INNS AND OUTS

### Taxing time in America

ANY COMPANY with an American branch or subsidiary should beware. The Internal Revenue Service is watching them. To open discussion on a controversial new American tax authorities proposal, the American Tax Institute in Europe is holding a briefing at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London on February 8.

The topic will be an IRS proposal that will require all foreign records, directly or indirectly relating to non-US affiliate transactions with a US subsidiary or branch, to be maintained and surrendered on demand if they are relevant for US tax purposes.

Designed to enforce the new transfer pricing rules, the proposed regulations are striking fear into the hearts of British companies with business in the US. The briefing will include analysis of the proposal's draconian effect and the institute invites contributions to its comments to the American IRS, to be submitted before regulations are completed on February 22.

translated it into Turkish and the other agreed with what was said. The first hearing, in December ended when one defendant, Vedat Aydin, insisted speaking in Kurdish. The judge refused to recognise the language calling it "incomprehensible". The hearing was suspended until this month, but only after the court had ruled that Mr Aydin had forfeited his right of defence by refusing to speak Turkish.

### Northern line

WHO SAYS London has an unfair share of the resources of the legal profession? Yesterday one of the most important collections of legal history in Europe left the custody of the Law Society and was presented to Lancaster university on indefinite loan.

About 1,500 books make up the collection, most of them 19th-century reprints of materials from as far back as the 12th century, including early case reports such as *Curia Regis*, Henslet's *Treatises* and titles such as Rymer's *Foedera*, a 14th-century treatise on international law. The Treason Act 1352, reprinted in the collection, was the basis of the charges against William Joyce (the Nazi propagandist Lord Haw Haw) in 1945. Lancaster university, which is already an important centre for the study of legal history, will be teaching a masters course on law and history from October this year.

### Seeking justice

THE STATE of the criminal justice system will be the subject of a conference in March of the Legal Action Group, a legal services pressure group, in March. In particular, the conference will look at ways of improving confidence in a system and set of institutions whose credibility has been seriously dented by cases such as that of the Guildford Four.

Garth Peirce, a Guildford Four solicitor, of Birming & Co, will speak at the conference, with Ruth Bunday, a Leeds solicitor and Roger Smith, the Legal Action Group's chairman. LAG has put forward proposals for ways of avoiding miscarriages of justice and for putting them right when they do occur.

SCRIVENOR

## Should the law restrict the right to know?

THE MYTH of the right to know is now so widespread that it is often difficult to remember how recently it arose.

The right to life, to freedom from persecution and to equality before the law are long established in all societies, if often violated. The right to food, to housing and to education have an obvious basis in humanitarian common sense, although they are difficult to enforce in law.

The right to know is a fiction. It is established in none of the classical definitions of the rights of man, and for very good reasons.

If I remove life, freedom or equality from someone, I remove something all civilised people now accept humans already have, and thereby diminish them. If I deny them food, housing or education I stunt them, make their lives

Lack of access to confidential information should make no difference to people's lives, argues Christopher Whitty, the winner of *The Times* Law Award for 1990

less complete. If I do not grant them a right to know, I make no difference to them at all.

You are in no way a lesser person because you do not know the name of the director of MI6, the contents of your medical notes or the cabinet's deliberations the day before.

Nothing that is obviously yours has been taken away from you. How can it be claimed that there is a right to know? Those who claim that such a right exists fall into two camps: people who have a profound interest in getting information more easily, and the permanently paranoid.

The former group consists of the media in all its forms and a small rag-bag of academics, spies and rival

trade groups. The latter can be conveniently caricatured, for reasons of space, as those who spend their time writing to MPs, the press and one another about the dangers of fluoride in water, imminent nuclear winter, and the fact that their telephone is tapped.

Some fall into both categories. Should the law pander to these special interest groups by extending access to previously confidential information?

Let us take a recent case where the law has been changed (*changed*, mark you) to allow patients access to the notes on them that doctors keep. These were referred to in parliament and the press as "their" medical notes. If this

definition of "their" is allowed to stand, every time you write anything about a person for your own use it is their property, an obvious absurdity in law.

The notes are kept for three reasons: to remind the doctor of what they have been told and have done, to allow other health-care professionals to know what has been done, and to remain as a legal document if disputes arise. They are usually both boring and incomprehensible, and most patients will have no interest in seeing them.

There are a few groups who will want to see them, however, and inevitably these are the people in whose interests notes are confidential. One

group are the hypochondriacs, who will fuel their genuinely serious, and widespread, condition.

Another are those who medical staff suspect, but cannot prove, have social-medical problems including alcoholism, child abuse or marital difficulties.

Doctors and nurses will simply not record these for other staff if they think that the notes might be read by the patient, and tragic results for patients or, still worse, their children will be the inevitable result.

When these considerations, where the changes will adversely affect thousands each year, are pitted against the relatively nebulous and infre-

quent cases where the converse is true, the case for the law breaking the age-old right to confidentiality seems pitiful.

For there is a *de facto* right not to disclose information which this new concept is gradually eroding. With this right goes openness, honesty, even impartiality.

If doctors provide one example, government provides another. Who can seriously claim that the cabinet would discuss things freely, acknowledging the complexity of all issues rather than embracing simplistic political positions, if it were televised?

The law cannot restrict the right to know, for no such right exists. It should not be used to extend state secrecy, but neither should it be allowed to break down trust within groups by eroding the right to confidentiality.

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For further information in complete confidence, please contact **Alistair Dougall** on 071-405 6062 (071-831 0030 evenings/weekends), or write to him at **Quarry Dougall Recruitment**, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.



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# A working life filled with things of beauty

People who love beautiful things often dream of owning an antique shop. Unfortunately, establishing any shop takes capital, and antique businesses, because of the value of their stock, take more than most.

Many successful dealers have made their money elsewhere; it is not an easy career for beginners.

The business falls into four main categories:

● **Auctioneers:** from the big four of Bonhams, Christie's, Phillips and Sotheby's, to smaller ones across Britain;

● **Larger dealers:** these are mainly concentrated in the Mayfair area of London and in the larger cities;

● **Smaller dealers:** self-employed, either owning premises or working from home;

● **Ramblers:** middlemen who work on a personal contact basis, and, according to one definition, "take an object from Fred to Joe, whose specialisation they know and who knows them, in the hope of making a sale".

There are also people who attend antique fairs on a part-time basis or as a paying hobby. Some, nevertheless, manage to make a living.

**Becoming an antique dealer is not easy: it takes capital, business acumen and, above all, knowledge, Beryl Dixon says**

For anyone hoping to break into the business, there is no escaping the fact that capital is a necessity. Even someone planning to start in a small way has to be in a position to acquire stock. Business acumen comes a close second. However, equal to either of these is knowledge. "There is absolutely no substitute for hands-on experience, handling objects and learning about them," says Melvyn Gallagher, a fellow of the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers and a valuer with Christie's.

So how does one make a start? A traditional way is to learn, and make mistakes, at someone else's expense - that is, while in employment. It can be done, but finding a job will take persistence and an element of luck, and contacts in the trade will not go amiss. Dealers were once reluctant to pass on their jealously guarded expertise, but this applies less these days because there are so many books

giving away practical information. However, dealers will usually employ only one assistant.

Jobs in the London salerooms are highly sought after and it is becoming difficult to gain entry to anything higher than a porter's level without qualifications or experience. Also, the once open route of moving from porter to valuer has become more difficult.

Attending a course before making any job applications is helpful, although not essential. A list of courses can be obtained from the British Antique Dealers' Association. The private courses are expensive, but not compared with taking a degree, and can be regarded as an investment. Grants are not available.

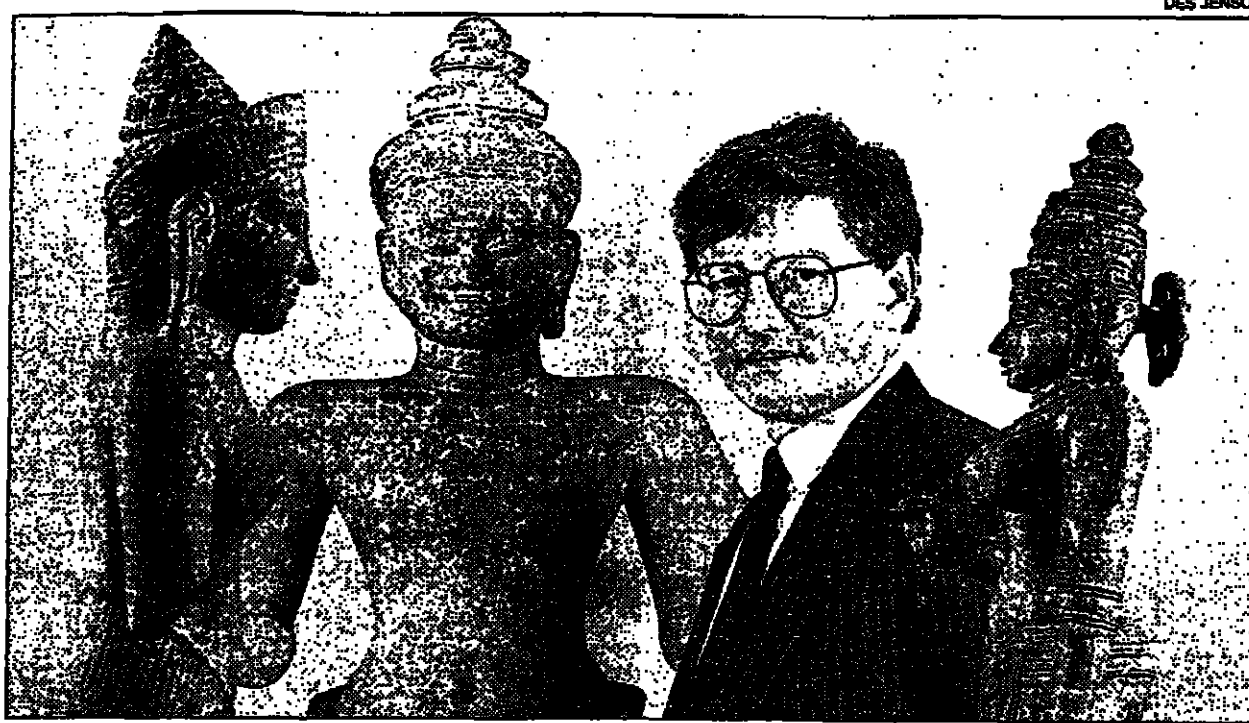
Opinion on such courses is divided. One dealer I consulted dismissed them as courses for rich men's daughters, while another said that they give every opportunity to handle objects, visit galleries and get the necessary hands-

on experience. One or two courses in the state sector, primarily leading to a qualification in the Fine Arts and Chateaux division of either the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers, or the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, qualify for local education authority grants.

Alternatively, some people are self-taught. There is a wealth of information available, in printed form and in short courses. It is possible, by attending classes, reading widely and visiting fairs, sales and shops, to learn enough to at least avoid burning one's fingers when starting to buy.

The last decision is whether to specialise or to be a generic dealer. Some people like to buy and sell any kind of object, while others specialise. The *Antique Collector* magazine contains advertisements for dealers specialising in fields ranging from paintings, maps and prints to clocks, furniture, china, jewellery and rugs.

Information from *The British Antique Dealers' Association*, 20 Rutland Gate, London SW7 1BD. The *Antiques Trade Gazette* lists fairs, auctions and antique centres in Britain. West Dean College, Chichester, runs residential weekend courses on different topics.



From employee to gallery owner: Michael Spink, who specialises in Indian and Islamic work from the 7th century on

**MICHAEL Spink**, who owns a gallery in Jermyn Street, London, admits he had some useful contacts when he entered the family business after reading history and history of art at Cambridge. However, he says, "no amount of nepotism will keep you in the job if you are no good, and once I had joined I was just another employee". Nor was the family name any help when he took the bold step, ten years later, of branching out on his own.

"I decided to specialise in Indian and Islamic work and deal in all kinds of objects, paintings, jewellery and pottery - post 7th century Islamic and Mogul art from India. I love my work because it combines business with the opportunity to handle beautiful things. In my line there is also considerable scope for doing research," he says.

"As a bonus I do enjoy being self-employed, but make no mistake, it is a business. I had to raise finance, find premises and buy initial stock. I had to be careful not to buy too much at first and I have had to learn to forecast the slack and busy times and adjust my cash flow accordingly. I try not to fall into the trap of buying things I could

not bear to part with. I actually believe it is unwise to collect and deal in the same field. If you do, you risk customers thinking that you are holding back the best pieces for yourself. Dealers have very different backgrounds. My route is only one way in, but I did find it useful. My degree course taught me not to be overawed by academic opinions. So many professors held opposing views. I learnt to evaluate evidence for myself."

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We will be holding informal meetings at the following locations from 12noon to 7.30pm.

Wednesday 6th February  
The Hilton National, Board Room 3, Eastern Road, Farnborough, Portsmouth.

Thursday 7th February,  
Daniels Bates Partnership Ltd., 17 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4QH.

Friday 8th February,  
Post House Hotel, Ruperts/Mayflower Suite, Herbert Walker Avenue, Southampton.

Approaches can be handled on an anonymous basis if preferred or, alternatively, a preliminary conversation could be arranged with a Senior Partner of the firm.

For further information, please contact either TERRY ROSE or CHARLES METCALF, quoting ref 91A/4821 at Daniels Bates Partnership Ltd., 9 Probenal Court, Oxford Road, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP19 3EY - (0296) 393040 (24 hour answering service). YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE TREATED IN THE STRICTEST OF CONFIDENCE.

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Male or female candidates should submit in confidence a comprehensive c.v. or telephone for a Personal History Form to: A.D. Kelly, Hoggett Bowers plc, 4 Mosley Street, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, NE1 1DE, 091-232 7455, Fax: 091-261 8438, quoting Ref: N19021/T.

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Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer (Academic Staff), quoting Ref. No. 9102/2, Aston University.



Aston Triangle, Birmingham B4 7ET. Tel: 021-359 0870 (24-hour answerphone). Closing date for the receipt of applications 28th February, 1991.

ASTON UNIVERSITY



# The fairy-tale Giant of New York

FROM SIMON BARNES  
IN TAMPA

WHEN you watch an awful lot of different kinds of sport, you acquire an odd sort of instinct. Not for tactics, or the subtleties of execution, but for the flow of emotion. You get a sense of when the force is with a player, and sometimes you can sense the moment when it leaves.

Time after time, I have watched a game, and will react to one incident or another by saying to myself "That's it. That's the ball game." If the instinct is working well, it will happen once in a game: isolating the moment on which the contest turned.

It happened to me at least half a dozen times during Sunday's magnificently oscillating Super Bowl game, in which New York Giants somehow scraped their way past the Buffalo Bills by 20-19.

The game was a personal triumph for many people; but more than anyone, it was a triumph for Jeff Hostetler, a man with an ungainly name, an ungainly moustache, an ungainly physique — and a Super Bowl victory. He was the understudy quarterback for the Giants. He had spent seven dispiriting years as understudy.

Nor was it all unadulterated joy on Sunday; he tasted the fruits of humiliation more than once during the game. More than once, I thought he was certain to recapture the oldest story in sport: the understudy who takes over from the superstar and makes an ungodly mess of it.

He began the match by overthrowing the ball, a sure sign of someone trying far too hard. He then suffered a whacking great hit from Leon Seals, which I don't recommend to anybody. Hostetler needed smelling salts to revive him. Shortly afterwards, he fell over one of his own men in his own end zone. Several Bills players then jumped all over him; that is called a safety, it costs two points, and it left the Giants nine points behind.

I thought, quite distinctly, as Hostetler went down: "That's the ball game." But it was not; the plot had one twist after the next, just as some bills offer the walker one false peak after another. Hostetler veered between triumph and disaster until the final horrific moments gave him his glory. It came when the Bills, with



## DETAILS

1st 2nd 3rd 4th Tm  
pts pts pts pts

New York Giants 3 7 7 3 20  
Buffalo Bills 3 9 0 7 19

First quarter: New York: M. Bahr, 29yd field goal, 7min 49sec elapsed. Buffalo: S. Norwood, 23yd field goal, 5:03. Second quarter: Buffalo: D. Smith, 1yd run (Norwood kick), 2:30. S. Smith, passing (Norwood kick), 5:53. New York: S. Bahr, 16yd pass from J. Hostetler (Bahr kick), 14:55. Third quarter: New York: O. Anderson, 1yd run (Bahr kick), 6:23. Fourth quarter: Buffalo: T. Thomas, 31yd run (Norwood kick), 0:08. New York: Bahr 21yd field goal, 7:40.

Attendance: 73,813. Individual leaders: Rushing: New York: Anderson, 21 attempts, 102yds. Buffalo: S. Norwood, 3:12. Hostetler, 9:10. Buffalo: Thomas, 15:15. Kelly, 6:23. Passing: New York: Hostetler, 20 completions, 32 attempts, 222 yds. Buffalo: Kelly: 18-30-212. Receiving: New York: Ingram, 5 catches, 74yds. Bahr, 5-50; Cross, 4-38; Baker, 2-31. Buffalo: T. Thomas, 1-17; Carlton, 1-3. Buffalo field: 5-52; Thomas, 5-55; Davis, 2-23; McKelster, 2-11; Lottin, 1-61.

eight seconds left, attempted a 47-yard field goal to win the game — and poor Scott Norwood missed it. Victory went instead to the Giants.

But it is hard for Hostetler to feel too sad about Norwood. Norwood had his chance for glory; and it went wrong on him. Hostetler has been waiting seven years for a chance, not for glory but simply to play football in public. He was five years with the Giants without even throwing a pass. "That," the Giants coach, Bill Parcells, said unfeelingly, "was his job."

But surely something happens to you in these depressing years as second best. Nice job, nice salary, sure; but never the chance to play, to taste triumph and disaster, to feel like a real sportsman, as part of the team. Always a spare part.

"No, it's not a dream come true," Hostetler kept insisting before the game. "I always knew I was good enough." That left Hostetler in a minority of one. Parcells has always had a special relationship with



No longer a spare part: Hostetler, his seven-year itch over, revels at last in the spotlight of the ball game

Phil Simms, his starting quarterback. They won a Super Bowl together four years back, and Simms had a near-perfect game.

But Simms got injured and was out for the rest of the season. No one expected much more of the Giants for the rest of the season, either.

Instead, Hostetler has somehow managed to harness years of frustration and haul the Giants to this almost absurd result.

"I felt like David and Goliath," he said after one victory. "Almost everyone doubted me. That's all I heard. But I have always believed in myself." No one with a moustache like Hostetler's could be a hero in a fairy story, so Hostetler was naturally unable to get up from the terrible whacking and the embarrass-

ing safety to put together a flawless performance.

Hostetler lacks the easy elegance that has always been the hallmark of Jim Kelly, quarterback for the Bills. He lacks the certainty of Simms, he lacks the icy authority of Joe Montana, of the San Francisco 49ers.

One of Hostetler's strengths is his ability to improvise, to scramble out of the packet and run with the ball. He tried this a number of times; it never looked nice; it always looked ever so slightly like a headless chicken. You never saw him attempt a big play without a sense of anxiety for him.

But it worked. A third quarter drive produced some magnificent running plays, and culminated in a touchdown for Otis Anderson, the ultimate winner of the Most Valuable Player award. And,

in the fourth quarter, Hostetler put together a drive based around his own passing game and the catching of Mark Bavaro.

In a sense, it failed; the Giants couldn't score the touchdown they wanted and had to make do with a field goal. And this was yet another moment when it seemed perfectly obvious that the force had left Hostetler and the Giants. That's the ball game, I thought once again. But all the same, that flawed drive gave them the lead, and they managed to hang on to it.

"Everybody wrote us off and we kept fighting away, stayed together, hung tough, and this is just a great victory for me," Hostetler said. "Thank the Lord it's done and no one can take it away."

One wonders where that leaves Hostetler now. He is

the first back-up quarterback to win a Super Bowl; will he become the first Super Bowl-winning quarterback to start the new season as understudy? It is an odd dilemma for Parcells; surely, two Super Bowl-winning quarterbacks in one team is something of an *embarras de richesse*.

Success in sport is all about seizing the moment, rising to the occasion. After seven years of not even having an occasion to rise to, Hostetler, in a handful of games, has done everything any quarterback could ever dream of.

Bavaro, the Giants' tight end, summed up: "Phil's a great quarterback. So was the Hoss. They're both great. We love them both. Hoss was great. Great. Great. Great."

Exactly. That's the ball game, Hoss.

## BASKETBALL

### US guard needs to keep his eye in for Leicester

By NICHOLAS HARLING

WHILE Kingston hog the limelight tomorrow night with the visit of Barcelona, the European Cup favourites, to Crystal Palace, Leicester City Riders and London Docklands will be doing their utmost 150 miles away to divert a little attention towards the Carlsberg League's only midweek fixture.

It may not be too difficult, since the rearranged game at Grandby Halls brings into opposition the player who almost provided the league's highest individual score of the season on Saturday, and the team that nearly produced the most sensational result to date. Twenty-four hours after Gene Waldron had contributed 48 points, including six three-pointers, to Leicester's 107-96 win over Manchester, Docklands were coming within one missed shot of registering their first league victory against the unbeaten leaders, Kingston.

Waldron's tally, which fell three short of Ernest Lee's season's best for Derby — also against Manchester — maintained Leicester's pursuit of Kingston. But the oft 2in American guard needs to keep his eye in after tomorrow's game, for Leicester must then succeed in both home fixtures against Kingston to stay in contention. They would do well, too, to take scant notice of Kingston's narrow, 90-88, winning margin on Sunday, for it was a starting five, containing three regular

members of the bench, that did duty for them for much of the game. Even so, Byrd almost left the club's coach, Kevin Castle, with egg on his face after passing up a one-on-one with seven seconds left. The responsibility of winning the match was then too much for Bailey. Instead of shooting a three-pointer, he passed to Adams, who missed.

Worthing, 100-90, had pushed Kingston, albeit a much stronger Kingston, for a while the previous night, but their challenge evaporated from a 21-14 lead midway through the first half. Clark finished with 22 points in Kingston's 113-82 success, but Hunsford (20pts) won the battle of the three-point specialists with Duncan (25) by seven to five. "We've got too many guys just going home," Dale Shackelford, the Worthing coach, said. "If they ain't going home with aches and pains, they haven't given 100 per cent."

Hemel Hempstead's two defeats on the road enabled Thames Valley, 111-95 winners on Saturday, and Sunderland, Sunday's 97-84 victors, to stay like Leicester, within a couple of points of Kingston. Waldron finished with a weekend aggregate of 46 points for Hemel.

RESULTS: First division: Derby Rams 111, London Docklands 84; Kingston 113, Worthing 82; 2nd: Worcester City 107, Thames Valley Tigers 111; Hemel Hempstead 100, 88; London Docklands 85, Kingston 100; Sunderland 97, Hemel Hempstead 84.

## POOLS FORECAST

Saturday February 2		THIRD DIVISION		BEAZER HOMES LGE PREMIER DIVISION	
FIRST DIVISION		2 Bradford v Scunthorpe		X Poole v Chester	
1 A Villa v Derby		1 Brentford v Norwich		SCOTTISH PREMIER	
2 Luton v QPR		2 Bury v Swindon		1 Aberdeen v Hearts	
3 Norwich v Man City		3 Exeter v Barnsley		2 Dundee U. v Dundee	
4 Sheffield v M. P. S.		4 Huddersfield v Gillingham		3 Hibernian v Kilmarnock	
5 Sheffield v M. P. S.		5 Leyton O v Tranmere		4 St Johnstone v Rangers	
6 Walsley v Walsley		6 Preston v Bolton		5 St Mirren v Partick	
7 Walsley v Walsley		7 Shrewsbury v Southend		SCOTTISH SECOND	
8 Walsley v Walsley		8 Slough v Charlton		1 Alloa v Stranraer	
9 Walsley v Walsley		9 St Albans v Luton		2 Dundee v Arbroath	
10 Walsley v Walsley		10 Wigan v Fulham		3 Dundee v Arbroath	
11 Walsley v Walsley		11 Wigan v Fulham		4 East Fife v Queen's P.	
12 Walsley v Walsley		12 Wigan v Fulham		5 Motherwell v D. of S.	
13 Walsley v Walsley		13 Wigan v Fulham		6 Motherwell v D. of S.	
14 Walsley v Walsley		14 Wigan v Fulham		7 Motherwell v D. of S.	
15 Walsley v Walsley		15 Wigan v Fulham		8 Motherwell v D. of S.	
16 Walsley v Walsley		16 Wigan v Fulham		9 Motherwell v D. of S.	
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25 Walsley v Walsley		25 Wigan v Fulham		18 Motherwell v D. of S.	
26 Walsley v Walsley		26 Wigan v Fulham		19 Motherwell v D. of S.	
27 Walsley v Walsley		27 Wigan v Fulham		20 Motherwell v D. of S.	
28 Walsley v Walsley		28 Wigan v Fulham		21 Motherwell v D. of S.	
29 Walsley v Walsley		29 Wigan v Fulham		22 Motherwell v D. of S.	
30 Walsley v Walsley		30 Wigan v Fulham		23 Motherwell v D. of S.	
31 Walsley v Walsley		31 Wigan v Fulham		24 Motherwell v D. of S.	
32 Walsley v Walsley		32 Wigan v Fulham		25 Motherwell v D. of S.	

## PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

### CHIEF HEALTH AND HOUSING OFFICER

CE37,000 + BENEFITS

One of the most populated and developing Districts in the country, Wokingham District Council has a strong commitment to housing and environmental issues. So much so, that we have created this post to head up a restructured Housing and Environmental Health department of nearly 60 staff.

Managing an environment of change...

- You will be responsible for:
  - management and leadership of the department
  - ensuring maximum cost-effectiveness and value for money from allocated resources
  - providing the highest standards of customer care
  - advising members on policy development, implementing and monitoring
  - contributing to the corporate management of the Council and fulfilling its ethos.
- A high profile role, you will need at least 5 years' senior management experience and probably be professionally qualified in Housing and/or Environmental Health.
- In return the Council can offer an attractive package, including:
- lease car subsidy of £3,600 per annum
  - relocation package up to £5,000
  - mortgage subsidy
  - professional subscription paid
  - private medical insurance and life assurance schemes

For an informal discussion please contact the Chief Executive, Nick Gurney, on 0734 786833 ext 2200.

An application form and information package can be obtained from Jacky Hadley, Personnel Section, District Secretary's Department, Council Offices, Shute End, Wokingham, Berks RG41 1WH. Tel Wokingham (0734) 778605 (Direct Line).

Closing date for applications will be Wednesday 13th February.

WOKINGHAM  
forward for the future

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE

to £45,000 + benefits

**THE BOROUGH** With a population of 52,465, the Borough of Boston covers some 137 square miles, and is bordered on its eastern side by the Wash, an outstanding natural feature. The ancient and picturesque market town of Boston itself is the second largest population centre in Lincolnshire, has a privately owned Port, and is set amidst one of the most productive agricultural areas in England.

**THE CHALLENGE** Retirement of the present Chief Executive presents the opportunity for change. Elected members wish to appoint an outstanding MANAGER as Head of the Paid Service. The successful applicant will be expected to adopt a strategic and corporate approach to service provision. It is likely that some initial organisational review will be required. The Chief Executive will be expected to demonstrate leadership, effective delegation, competent management of physical, financial and human resources, concern for the citizen and the ability to relate positively to the political dimension of local government.

- THE BENEFITS**
- An initial five year contract with a third year mutual agreement option for permanency.
  - Negotiated benefits package (including relocation).
  - Quality environment with low cost housing.
  - Elected members committed to change.

Closing date: 28th February 1991

Quote Vacancy Ref. 251290.

Further information and a recruitment package available, in confidence, from

**Borough of Boston**

Ron Simpson, Director,  
East Midlands Employers' Organisation,  
West Annexe, County Hall,  
Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8RN.  
Tel. (0533) 656229.

EMEO RECRUITMENT SERVICES  
An Equal Opportunity Employer

## LEGAL

Commission for Local Administration  
in Wales

### Appointment of "Welsh Local Ombudsman"

Mr Hywel F Jones, Commissioner for Local Administration in Wales, is to retire on 1 July 1991. In accordance with Section 23 (4) of the Local Government Act 1974 the Secretary of State for Wales will, after consultation with representatives of local authorities, recommend a successor for appointment by Her Majesty The Queen.

This senior full-time appointment equates to the Civil Service grade of Deputy Secretary. The role of the Welsh Local Ombudsman is to investigate allegations of injustice caused by the maladministration of local authorities, police authorities, and some other public authorities in Wales. The matters on which the Commissioner will be required to adjudicate will include some of considerable significance, and the Secretary of State will wish to recommend a person of the appropriate standing and experience. The Commissioner's office is at Bridgend.

Persons interested in being considered for the post, or wishing to suggest a name or names for consideration, should write in confidence by 28 February 1991 to:

The Permanent Secretary  
The Welsh Office  
Cathays Park, Cardiff CF1 3NQ



BAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Administrative &  
Legal Department

### Principal Assistant Solicitor

Salary PO (C) £19,911 - £21,447 plus discretionary increments to a maximum of £22,989 and a further five increments at the discretion of the Officer's Management Team (to £25,731)

We have a vacancy for an experienced solicitor. We are a major employer and law firm facing all the legal challenges implicit in those facts as well as the particular challenges facing Local Government in the 1990s.

We offer modern offices in an attractive location on the sunny South Coast, near to the continental ferry port of Portsmouth and to Southampton as well as the South Downs and a host of recreational facilities. We offer a competitive relocation package, a leased car and benefits.

We need a solicitor with determination, enthusiasm and commitment. Local Government experience would be an advantage but is not essential and we would welcome applications from competent and experienced solicitors currently working in private practice and well used to a substantial and varied conveyancing workload.

If you think you might be interested in the post and that we might be interested in you, we would like to hear from you. Application forms and further particulars can be obtained by telephoning Havant (0703) 474174 (ext 235) or by writing to the Borough Secretary, Civic Offices, Civic Road, Havant, Hampshire PO9 2AX (quoting Post No. A/03).

Disabled persons may apply as appropriate. The closing date for applications is 22nd February 1991.

## TECHNICAL

### Key Opportunities in Engineering

A major reorganisation of the Department has resulted in three new posts in the Highways Division, which has responsibility for the comprehensive management of the 620 streets and related infrastructure within the square mile of the City of London.

### Assistant Engineer (Highway Services)

(Grade 8) £19,517 to £22,437 incl. The successful applicant will lead a team responsible for the delivery of a wide range of highway and open space services, including signs, street furniture, road markings, emergency planning, traffic regulation orders, enforcement, ceremonial event support, research and special projects. Previous applicants for this post will be considered on need not re-apply.

### Technician (Inspection)

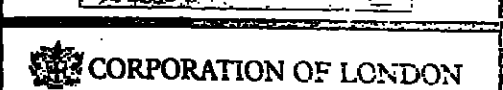
(Grade 4+2/5+2) £13,725 to £16,530 incl. The successful applicant will supervise and measure routine and structural maintenance works.

Applicants must have relevant experience in the supervision of highway works and in ensuring compliance with specifications and relevant vehicle and pedestrian safety requirements. They must also be experienced in the measurement of civil engineering works and in maintaining concise and accurate records of all work.

The Corporation of London offers attractive conditions of service, including a good pension scheme, staff restaurant, a snack bar and an interest free season ticket loan.

If you would like to discuss the nature of these posts please telephone 071-250 1474.

Alternatively, for an application form please telephone 071-250 1552 or write to the City Engineer, P.O. Box 270, Guildhall, EC2P 2SL. Closing Date: 22 February 1991. Interviews will be held in March 1991.



CORPORATION OF LONDON

## THE FELLOWSHIP OF ENGINEERING



### ENGINEERING SECONDMENTS OVERSEAS

Gain firsthand experience of engineering practice overseas

Engineering Secondments Overseas are designed to help outstanding engineers obtain first-hand experience of working abroad in advance engineering.

The Scheme is open to qualified professional engineers of all disciplines with a minimum of two years work experience for secondment periods of up to a year. Engineers currently employed in industry, local government, research associations or academic institutions are encouraged to apply.

A proposed programme of work should be put to The Fellowship of Engineering by the applicant, their employer and the overseas host organisation. Preference will be given to projects with clear objectives within a specified timescale.

Further information is available from Nicola McGrath, The Fellowship of Engineering, 2 Little Smith Street, London SW1P 3DL. Telephone 071 222 2088.







# Australia's cricket captain errs on the side of caution in extending their Test lead to 471 before declaring

## Border slams the door on England

First-class servant of game in Yorkshire

By MARTIN SEARBY

JOE Lister, the Yorkshire secretary, died in a Harrogate hospital yesterday at the age of 60. A former first-class cricketer, he made his debut for Combined Services in 1951 and played two championship matches for his native county before joining Worcestershire as an amateur and playing 21 matches for them between 1954 and 1959.

He was appointed assistant secretary at New Road in his first season and was aged 26 when he was promoted, holding the post for 15 years before joining Yorkshire in 1971 upon the retirement of John Nash.

A nephew of George Macaulay, the England and Yorkshire bowler, Lister leaves a widow, Sheila, and a son, Charles. He was educated at Cheltenham College and also played hockey for Yorkshire.

"He was a loyal and distinguished servant of the club and a great friend to many members and those concerned with its affairs," Bryan Walsh, the club chairman, said. Lister entered hospital nine days ago and last Tuesday underwent an operation from which he failed to recover.

Brian Close, the chairman of Yorkshire's cricket committee, who played in Lister's first county match, against Gloucestershire at Bristol, said: "He steered a steady but difficult course through all the troubles we have had in the last decade and was dedicated to the club. He suffered a lot of ill-judged abuse at that time, but he remained stoical throughout. Although a very private man, in his heart he had a great love for the game."

Ronnie Burnett, the former county captain, said: "He was a very fine fencing batsman who played in a true amateur spirit and I always thought he had the ability to get into Yorkshire's first team on a regular basis. He also had captaincy qualities."

The former county fast bowler, Bob Platt, a close friend, said: "He was the doyen of cricket secretaries and his death will leave a great void in the club."

## Gurusinha almost to the rescue

ALL THAT INTERESTED BORDER was putting England out of the game, and then selecting the best psychological moment to expose their notorious fragile batting, in the cautionary knowledge that his own attack was restricted by injuries to McDermott and Hughes.

He chose to set an impossible target and, left with survival as a solitary option, Gooch and Atherton cleared the first obstacle by negotiating ten overs at the end of the day. On what remains a perfectly good pitch, the mission which confronted them on the final day was likely to be decided as much in the mind as in the technique.

For tutition in this regard, the two who took deserved wickets on Sunday evening who disappointed yesterday. Small, Malcolm and DeFreitas all forfeited control of length, allowing a limping Hughes to put on 66 with Boon as nightwatchman before the feature of the day, the sixth-wicket stand of 110, progressed undisturbed.

Boon was out to a weary slog across the line at Tufnell, who might have been unfortunate not to have him ball five runs earlier. Matthews, however, ensured in his scintillating style that England would even now earn no respite, and 74 runs were added in an ever more positive hour before the declaration.

From ALAN LEE  
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT  
ADELAIDE

THE last signs of life were squeezed from this Ashes series yesterday and it was entirely appropriate that the final uncompromising act was performed by Allan Border.

Australia's captain is the role model for a team which tolerates only real men with the selfless singlemindedness to play through pain and adversity in search of a common goal. Yesterday, Border batted almost four hours in vivid discomfort to slam the door shut on any fanciful notions of an England win in this fourth Test.

If he erred on the side of caution in extending Australia's lead to 471 before declaring 45 minutes from the close, this was his privilege. Being 2-0 ahead, with one game to play, Border was entitled to believe that bravado was now exclusively England's province.

He had dropped himself down to No. 7 in the order to protect the groin strain which might have put lesser mortals out of the game, but at regular stages of his innings he winced, hobbled or doubled up with the pain of the injury. His running, usually such a lively virtue of his batting, was badly impaired.

It must be possible that Border's extraordinary run of 116 consecutive Tests, stretching back 12 years, will end in a prudent rest for the Perth game later this week, if only to assure his fitness for the upcoming Caribbean tour. But he was positively intent on staying at his post until the present job was completed to his satisfaction and, if he had to do the hard work himself, there were to be no complaints.

By calling a halt with his score 83 not out, Border denied himself a highly probable hundred and extended his bizarre sequence without one to 23 Tests and 38 innings. It bothers him, inasmuch that he wants to prove to himself that he can still do it, but such selfish thoughts would never have entered yesterday's calculations.

All that interested Border was putting England out of the game, and then selecting the best psychological moment to expose their notorious fragile batting, in the cautionary knowledge that his own attack was restricted by injuries to McDermott and Hughes.

He chose to set an impossible target and, left with survival as a solitary option, Gooch and Atherton cleared the first obstacle by negotiating ten overs at the end of the day. On what remains a perfectly good pitch, the mission which confronted them on the final day was likely to be decided as much in the mind as in the technique.

For tutition in this regard,

they could do no better than study the methods employed by David Boon in making the ninth Test century of his understated career. It was launched unpromisingly at one for one, proceeded under severe restraint while Australia courted disaster at 25 for three, and was allowed to flourish only after three hours of diligence had banished all possible risk of defeat.

Boon is an oddball in an Australian team which revels in its fitness and its image. But if forced to choose anyone in the world to bat for one's life, he would be a strong candidate.

The frail and compulsive strokes which marred his four years ago, have long since been eliminated and Boon is a much more formidable opponent these days than when he saved his place with a century of painful uncertainty on the same ground. Yesterday's 120 brought his aggregate for this series up to 436 at an average of 73. No one talks of leaving him out any more.

What Boon ensured was that yesterday's events be longed in the great tradition of Adelaide Tests, leaving behind the curiosity of 12 wickets in a day, which had left the regular patrons among Sunday's crowd searching their memories for an equivalent.

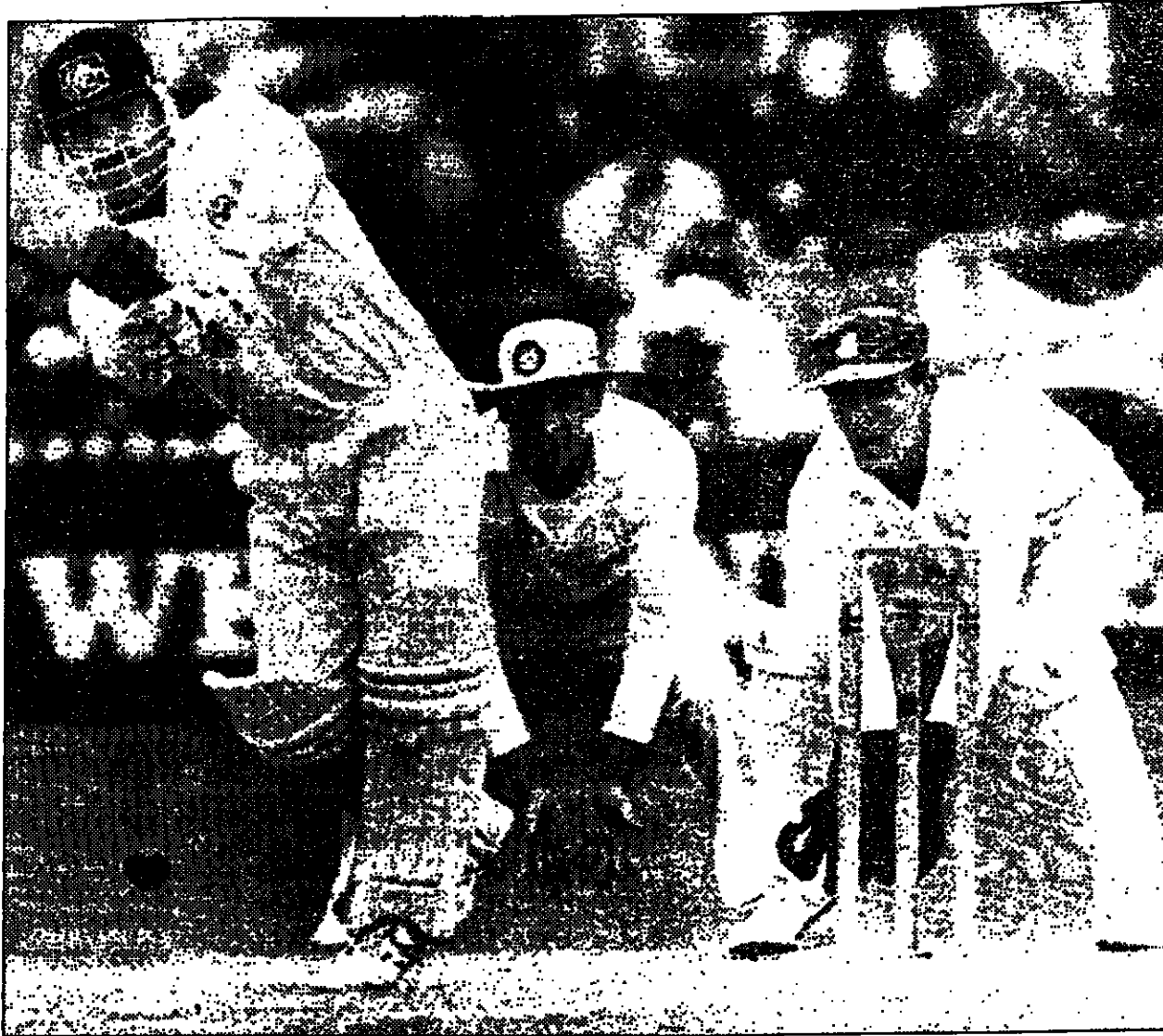
Only two wickets fell all day yesterday and, if Boon and Border share much credit for this, England's bowling must also bear some blame. It is one of the game's ironies that they managed to perform with such purpose and effect on Sunday evening, when injury restricted them to three bowlers, yet were reduced to impotence yesterday with a full complement of five.

The two who returned, Fraser and Tufnell, must be exempt from criticism. Neither was fully fit, hence the sense of recruiting Phil Newport as cover for the final Test, but Fraser looked increasingly confident of his hip as he delivered 26 overs in the day, while Tufnell conceded fewer than two runs an over and dismissed Boon.

It was the trio who took deserved wickets on Sunday evening who disappointed yesterday. Small, Malcolm and DeFreitas all forfeited control of length, allowing a limping Hughes to put on 66 with Boon as nightwatchman before the feature of the day, the sixth-wicket stand of 110, progressed undisturbed.

Boon was out to a weary slog across the line at Tufnell, who might have been unfortunate not to have him ball five runs earlier. Matthews, however, ensured in his scintillating style that England would even now earn no respite, and 74 runs were added in an ever more positive hour before the declaration.

Should England at any time wish to play five bowlers, two of them must be spinners now that Newport has gone. This effectively means Illingworth and Salisbury, the leg spinner, as Medleycott, the other left-arm slow bowler, has had problems with length and direction. Illingworth's tight, defensive bowling always figured in the England plans. Hughes originally looked certain of a place but needs a lengthy innings to put his inclusion in the first



Driving on towards another century: Boon leaves Atherton and Stewart empty-handed as he hits out at Tufnell

## ADELAIDE SCOREBOARD

Australia won toss  
AUSTRALIA: First innings 386 (M E Waugh 138, G R J Matthews 65; P A J DeFreitas 4-58)

Second Innings		4	6s	4s	1	2s	12
M A Taylor run out (Gower)		4			1	22	12
Fraser hit by Boon over short single							
G R J Matthews c Gooch b Small		0				9	5
Juggling catch at second slip							
D C Boon b Tufnell		121			9	268	276
Missed big hit to leg							
D M Jones bow b DeFreitas		8			2	28	16
Moved in front of his stumps							
M E Waugh b Malcolm		23			1	72	56
Played on, beaten by extra pace							
M G Hughes c Gooch b Fraser		30			3	102	62
Edged shot - another juggling catch							
A R Border not out		83			6	224	148
G R J Matthews not out		34			1	71	51

Extras (lb 1, lb 7, w 1, nb 2) 11  
Total (6 wickets down, 104 overs, 480 mins) 314  
H A Healy, C J McDermott and B A Reid did not bat.  
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1 (Taylor 0 not out), 2-8 (Boon 1), 3-25 (Boon 5), 4-54 (Boon 24), 5-130 (Boon 59), 6-240 (Border 48).  
BOWLING: Malcolm 21-0-87-1 (nb 1, w 1) (6-0-14-0, 6-0-22-1, 3-0-21-0, 5-0-30-0); Small 18-3-64-1 (4-1-15-1, 7-2-15-0, 4-0-18-0, 3-0-16-0); DeFreitas 23-6-61-1 (14-4-33-1, 5-0-18-0, 4-2-10-0); Fraser 25-3-88-1 (no 1) (10-1-17-1, 8-2-15-0, 8-0-34-0); Tufnell 16-3-28-1 (6-3-5-0, 10-0-23-1).  
ENGLAND: First Innings 229 (G A Gooch 87, R A Smith 53; C J McDermott 5-87; B A Reid 4-53).  
Second Innings  
G A Gooch not out 14  
M A Atherton not out 37  
Extras (lb 1, nb 3) 4  
Total (37 mins, 10 overs) 19  
A J Lamb, R A Smith, D Gower, J A J Stewart, P A J DeFreitas, G C Small, A R C Fraser, D E Malcolm and B A Reid did not bat.  
BOWLING: Reid 5-1-0-0; McDermott 4-0-0-0 (nb 4); Matthews 1-1-0-0.  
Umpires: L J King and T A Prie.  
FIRST TEST: Australia won by 160 wickets.  
SECOND TEST: Australia won by 8 wickets.  
THIRD TEST: Match drawn.  
TO COME: Fifth Test: Perth, February 1 to 5.

## A place with room for all-run sevens

Adelaide

ONE is often asked which is the most agreeable ground on which to watch a Test match, and Adelaide has few rivals. It has an atmosphere and a spaciousness which are very much its own, and it is delightfully unchanging. Photographs of MCC's match here against South Australia in 1911-12, show it to have been almost the same then as it is now.

For batsmen and fielders it asks questions of stamina, simply because of its size. The fact that it is 220 yards from sight screen to sight screen means that it has the longest straight boundaries in the world. Nowhere else can fours be turned, as it were, into fives as they are at the Adelaide Oval. In this match alone there have been 53 three and eight all-run fours. Had Godfrey Evans been running with Paul Parker there would have been some all-run sevens by now.

Being mostly dual purpose, to be used in the winter for Australian Rules football, a game that needs a lot of space, as well as for cricket in the summer, Australian cricket grounds are much larger than those in England. In the days before top dressings, Australian outfielders were bare and fast; now they are lush and unsatisfactorily slow.

Except at Perth the ropes are never used to bring the boundaries in. In England's first innings of 430 against Queensland at Carrara recently, there were more than four to three to 31. In the average Headingley Test match, three are few and far between. There, in fine weather, the ball races to the boundary. At Melbourne, in fine weather, I have seen a full day's play with only four boundary hits. This is a pity, for to hold its own against one-day cricket, Test cricket, especially in Australia, needs plenty of runs.

But the charm of Adelaide never fails. A gentle stroll from

## TENNIS

### Turmoil of Becker is the price of success

From ANDREW LONGMORE  
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT  
MELBOURNE

VICTORIES by Boris Becker and Monica Seles in the first grand slam tournament of the year have confirmed the subtly changing pattern of the international game. Seles has proved she is not just a claycourt specialist by winning her second grand slam title. Becker has proved that he still has the desire to be a champion, a quality that was not always obvious as he meandered through last year, by winning his first title for 15 months. Lendl and Graf, the defeated champions and without a grand slam title between them for the first time in seven years, have to go away and relink their fires.

Lendl has already raked over the ashes by taking on Chris Lewis as a travelling coach. In addition to Tony Roche, Graf might consider a similar move because she badly needs more both on and off court and, good as a coach as he is, Pavel Slozil might not be the right person to encourage Graf's lighter side. Interestingly, John Lloyd is one name being touted as a possible replacement.

As his post-victory flight from the centre court on Sunday shows, Becker is a strange creature. On the one hand, someone who needs the challenge of being No. 1 in the world, of winning the Australian Open for the first time, of satisfying the hungry German public and all the various unwritten pressures on his shoulders to bring out his best; on the other, a sensitive young man who has real difficulty coping with the trappings of his own success. Unlike Lendl, Becker has not yet developed a confidence in his own personality to match his confidence as a tennis player, and the struggle as one catches up with the other might yet be very painful. Lendl managed it, however.

"I am just a tennis player," Becker said when asked about his views on the world as the world's No. 1. But he did really mean it. He promotes Greenpeace, contributes large sums to charities for the Romanian orphans and wants desperately to make a wider impact on the world than "just being a tennis player" would allow. On the outcome of this personal conflict might rest Becker's whole future in the game.

He is capable of winning the grand slam this year, if he puts his mind to it, because no other player, including Edberg and Lendl, is trained as well as he is. He is trained to play the main test will come, as ever, in Paris in the late spring when Becker will need every ounce of help he can get to win his first claycourt tournament. In preparation, he is set to play Monte Carlo in April and the Italian Open in Rome in May. In both places, he could just conceivably meet another confused champion, Bjorn Borg, in the first round.

No such complications cloud Seles's mind. She just has to look after her body, which uses a terrible pounding over the fortnight of a grand slam, especially if she plays doubles, which she says she must do to improve her net game. Playing countless exhibitions, as she did in December, might have the growth of the Seles and Co bank account, but it is not recommended for a growing girl.

A few new surnames - Krajicek, Caratti, Kamstra among them - and one relatively new christening name, Patrick (McEnroe) emerged during the fortnight. But the final thought should go to the startled groundsman who watched the new Australian Open men's singles champion trot round his park minutes after winning the title and then persuaded him to return. "No worries, mate," Becker would do well to adopt the Australian attitude to life.

## Opportunity summons a leg spinner

From RICHARD STRETON  
IN HIKKADUWA, SRI LANKA

ENGLAND A's three-day game with a Southern Districts XI, which begins today at Matara, near here, is their last fixture before a taxing run of representative matches. With tactical thoughts having to be revised because of Newport's departure for Australia, the next three weeks comprise four one-day internationals and two unofficial, five-day tests.

Should England at any time wish to play five bowlers, two of them must be spinners now that Newport has gone. This effectively means Illingworth and Salisbury, the leg spinner, as Medleycott, the other left-arm slow bowler, has had problems with length and direction. Illingworth's tight, defensive bowling always figured in the England plans. Hughes originally looked certain of a place but needs a lengthy innings to put his inclusion in the first

international at Galle on Saturday beyond argument.

ENGLAND A (v Southern Districts XI): H. Morris, D. J. B. Smith, M. R. Ramalingam, N. H. Fairbrother, R. S. Rhodes, R. K. Wiggall, D. K. Salisbury, R. A. Pick, S. L. Watson, T. A. Munton.

SRI LANKA PARTY (for first two one-day internationals): M. H. Jayasinghe, D. S. B. P. Kumara, C. Mahalingam, M. R. Ramalingam, N. H. Fairbrother, R. S. Rhodes, R. K. Wiggall, D. K. Salisbury, R. A. Pick, S. L. Watson, T. A. Munton.

Umpires: L J King and T A Prie.

FIRST TEST: Australia won by 160 wickets.

SECOND TEST: Australia won by 8 wickets.

THIRD TEST: Match drawn.

TO COME: Fifth Test: Perth, February 1 to 5.

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TENNIS  
Turmoil of  
Becker is  
the price of  
success

## Speedie is excluded by Coventry and put on transfer list

By CHRIS MOORE

DAVID Speedie, the Coventry City and Scotland midfielder, was last night put on the transfer list at his own request. His immediate availability is certain to alert a host of first division clubs, with Everton, Aston Villa and Nottingham Forest having already enquired about him this season.

"Speedie has played his last game for Coventry and will not be considered for our FA Cup replay at Southampton tomorrow night," Terry Butcher, the club's player-manager, said yesterday.

The fiery Scot, aged 30, became Coventry's record signing when they bought him for £750,000 from Chelsea in July 1987 and was their top scorer last season with nine goals. Despite his popularity with the supporters, he fell foul of the Highfield Road hierarchy in October following a much publicised incident with a vice-president which resulted in him being dropped and fined £3,000.

The latest suspicion that his future was again in doubt surfaced after Coventry's 1-0 defeat against Sheffield Wednesday in last week's Rumbelows Cup quarter-final. The subsequent omission of Speedie from the FA Cup tie with Southampton on Saturday, which significantly kept him from being cup-tied — sparked renewed speculation that he might soon be on the move.

"He has given his reasons

for wanting to leave, but I am not prepared to go into them because his verbal request was a private conversation," Butcher said.

"It has nothing to do with the incident earlier in the season, and contrary to what some people seem to think it is not because of any bust-up I am supposed to have had with him. He is probably fit enough to play at Southampton but is not in the right frame of mind."

Coventry immediately circularised Speedie's availability and anticipate "brisk business" this week. "Whoever buys him will get a very good player and I am just sorry that he wants to leave," Butcher said. "But I don't think we can realistically expect bids of £1 million for a player who will be 31 next month."

Adding to Butcher's problems is the absence of his winger, David Smith, from tonight's replay at The Dell because of influenza. That leaves Coventry without six of their regular side, the others being Butcher himself, Trevor Peake, Paul Edwards and the club's leading scorer, Kevin Gallacher.

Southampton, who, like Coventry, went out of the Rumbelows Cup at the fifth round stage last week, are without the injured Mickie Adams, their left back who was formerly with Coventry. With Francis Benali, his usual deputy, suspended, either

Alex Cherndnik or Andy Cook will start. Otherwise, they expect to be unaltered, with Sergei Gotsmanov continuing in place of the leading scorer, Matthew Le Tissier.

Tonight's winners will be at home in the fifth round to either Newcastle United or the winners of last night's third round second replay between Nottingham Forest and Crystal Palace.

Shrewsbury have dismissed speculation that they might cash in on their FA Cup fifth round tie against Arsenal or Leeds by surrendering home advantage. "There is no way we would even contemplate playing the tie away from Gay Meadow — the fans would cut our throats, and rightfully so," John Bond, the club's manager, said yesterday. A 15,000 limit has been fixed.

Manchester United will have to make another delayed-action defence of the FA Cup. The club's fifth round tie against Norwich City at Carrow Road has been selected by BSkyB for live transmission — and switched to Monday, February 18 (7.45pm). The satellite company also featured United in the third round, against Queen's Park Rangers.

Merseyside will also be in the money, with BBC selecting Liverpool or Brighton v Everton as their live fifth round offering on Sunday, February 17.

## Douka the match-winner

OVERSEAS FOOTBALL by KEITH BLACKMORE

AS AFRICA acknowledged its recent glorious past with the player of the year award to Roger Milla, of Cameroon, the shape of the continent's footballing future became a little clearer with more qualifying matches in the African Nations Cup.

The group three match in Niamey brought together the heirs apparent to Milla's throne, Amadou Diallo, of Niger, and Abdoulaye Laghrissi, of the group leaders, Morocco. These two are the leading scorers in the tournament with four each, but

it was a goal from Douka that gave Niger both points and moved them into second place. The second match in the group was postponed when Ivory Coast failed to turn up for their fixture with Mauritania. In group four, Nigeria drew with Togo and fell to third place, behind the great surprise of the tournament so far, Burkina Faso, who beat Benin 2-1 with two goals by Bakari.

Ghana lead the group by two points. Two teams from each group qualify for the finals in Senegal next January.

### OVERSEAS RESULTS

**AFRICAN NATIONS CUP:** Senegal 2, Nigeria 0. Senegal 2, Nigeria 0. Senegal 2, Nigeria 0.

**EUROPEAN LEAGUE:** Tottenham 1, Arsenal 1. Tottenham 1, Arsenal 1.

**ITALIAN LEAGUE:** Juventus 1, Fiorentina 1. Juventus 1, Fiorentina 1.

**SPANISH LEAGUE:** Real Madrid 1, Barcelona 1. Real Madrid 1, Barcelona 1.

**GERMAN LEAGUE:** Bayern Munich 1, Borussia Dortmund 1. Bayern Munich 1, Borussia Dortmund 1.

**ENGLISH LEAGUE:** Manchester United 1, Liverpool 1. Manchester United 1, Liverpool 1.

**SCOTTISH LEAGUE:** Celtic 1, Rangers 1. Celtic 1, Rangers 1.

**WELSH LEAGUE:** Cardiff City 1, Swansea City 1. Cardiff City 1, Swansea City 1.

**IRISH LEAGUE:** Shamrock Rovers 1, Drogheda United 1. Shamrock Rovers 1, Drogheda United 1.

**NETHERLANDS LEAGUE:** Ajax 1, PSV Eindhoven 1. Ajax 1, PSV Eindhoven 1.

**PORTUGAL LEAGUE:** Sporting CP 1, FC Porto 1. Sporting CP 1, FC Porto 1.

**GREEK LEAGUE:** Olympiacos 1, Panathinaikos 1. Olympiacos 1, Panathinaikos 1.

**YUGOSLAV LEAGUE:** Red Star Belgrade 1, Partizan Belgrade 1. Red Star Belgrade 1, Partizan Belgrade 1.

**CZECH LEAGUE:** Slavia Prague 1, Sparta Prague 1. Slavia Prague 1, Sparta Prague 1.

**HUNGARIAN LEAGUE:** Ferencvárosi 1, Újpesti 1. Ferencvárosi 1, Újpesti 1.

Two goals from Roberto Baggio helped Juventus to end Parma's promising run in the Italian first division. Juventus won 5-0 and moved to within a point of the leaders.

5-2. Lazio drew twice from the penalty spot and Bakari providing two of the other goals. Dalian Atkinson scored for Real Sociedad in their draw with Real Zaragoza.

Real Madrid, whose president, Ramon Mendoza, has called club elections to support a £20 million plan to expand facilities for basketball and boxing, beat Castellón 3-0. Sanchez scored a penalty to preserve his joint leadership of the individual scoring table with Jan Urban, of Osasuna.

In Portugal, the leading nine teams in the first division all drew, leaving Porto, the champions, one point ahead of Benfica at the top.

Racked by problems off the pitch, Marseilles are faring better on it, the French champions winning their second home match under the coaching of Raymond Goethals, 6-0, having won the first 7-0. Nantes were on the receiving end this time, as Pele and Papin each scored twice. Papin taking his total for the season to 18.

**CRICKET**  
SHEFFIELD SHEDS: Yorkshire 300 and 214 declared; Somerset 101 not out. Gloucestershire 143-9 dec and 91-4.

**TABLE TENNIS**  
BRISLEY: County champions Yorkshire 1, Lancashire 0. Yorkshire 1, Lancashire 0.

**HOCCY**  
CRYSTAL PALACE: Coventry 1, Crystal Palace 1. Coventry 1, Crystal Palace 1.

**BASKETBALL**  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Los Angeles Lakers 104, Boston Celtics 92. Los Angeles Lakers 104, Boston Celtics 92.

**ATHLETICS**  
WOOD GREEN: Southern Counties League meeting. Mark Stott 1, Peter Dinkley 2, Andrew Dinkley 3, & C. C. C. 4.

**ADAMANTIN**  
ROYAL BANK INTER-CITY CHAMPIONSHIP: First division. Yorkshire 1, Derbyshire 0. Yorkshire 1, Derbyshire 0.

**BOXING**  
LLOYD HENNEHAN has his second fight as a light-middleweight against the American John Walters at the Festival Hall, Basingstoke, on February 12.

**FENCING:** The national coach, John Llewellyn (Reading), beat Steven Paul (Surrey) 6-5, 5-1 to take the men's epee championship at West London last night. He automatically qualified for the Challenge Marston A grade on March 2.

**CYCLING:** The deadline for the entry of British professional teams for the Milk Race (May 26 to June 8) was extended from yesterday for a further week because of the uncertainty surrounding the number of sponsored squads this season.

**GOLF:** A final round of 67 in the Phoenix Open won Sunday Lyle \$19,000 for joint twelfth place. On Thursday, he started in the \$1.1 million A.T. & T. Probation on the three courses of Pebble Beach, Spyglass Hill and Poppo Hills.

**SNOKER:** Barry Hearn conceded yesterday that he has the chance of receiving any of £750,000 owed him by StormSeal in sponsorship and ancillary costs.

سكذ من لامل

## Sailing above the snow crust at Saalbach



Downhill first: Ghedina clocks the best time in yesterday's first section of the combination event at Saalbach

## Furies chase Ghedina into top gear

FROM BRIAN JAMES

IN SAALBACH

HIS arms flailing like a small boy playing aeroplanes, Kristian Ghedina poured himself down the Schneekristall piste yesterday to take the lead after the downhill half of the world championship combination, a run worth a better event.

Not until after Wednesday's slalom section will he know whether he can do his third-best discipline well enough to preserve his lead. It is unlikely, Good slalomists, like Mader and Accola, medal-winners in the Giro, are all in the pursuing pack.

The combination, on the downhill course shortened only

by losing its fearsome start, remains testing, but with six of the main downhill's top ten absent, including gold and bronze medal winners, it is clearly not an event that entices.

Apart from a few classy pothunters, it attracts the good at two events rather than the great of the few, still-standing Norwegians, Thorsen.

Still, Ghedina had a point to make and did so. In Sunday's championship downhill, Ghedina had a horrific run. After hitting the fence he finished, not even bothering to appear to be trying, in 34th place. This was disastrous for a youngster who came to these championships carrying Italy's main hope after a year of bravura skiing. Watching his lesser-known training mate,

Runggjerd, take the downhill silver medal, he would not have added to his peace of mind.

The furies drove him yesterday, as he averaged 93 kilometres per hour, finishing nine-tenths of a second — equal to more than 25 yards — ahead of the Swiss, Besso, and one of the few still-standing Norwegians, Thorsen.

"Boris" Duncan, of Britain, had a crash that sent him via helicopter to hospital, for stitches to a huge wound in his buttocks. He was cut after falling near the top, and did in a jumble of broken skis and poles into a snowdrift under a fence. Out of the championships with him goes Graham Bell, who did not finish, and his brother, Martin, who did; neither man is much of

a slalom skier, so they are flying home. Sean Langmuir remains to show his better slalom style.

Duncan was far from the only fall. The nine-pipe ending of a field of 73 raises two questions that will press hard on the International Ski Federation. Why not a qualification standard to protect the barely-competent? And why not safety-fencing that does not give continuous cause for alarmed comment?

RESULTS: 1. K. Ghedina (It, 1min 42.55sec), 2. B. Besso (Swi), 1:43.42, 3. J. Thorsen (Nor), 1:43.43, 4. P. Runggjerd (Nor), 1:45.58, 5. N. Hanning (Swi), 1:48.82, 6. A. J. Kite (US), 1:48.82, 7. G. Besso (Swi), 1:48.82, 8. E. Thorsen (Nor), 1:48.82, 9. S. Eberharter (Aust), 1:48.82, 10. C. Mader (Ger), 1:48.82, 11. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 12. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 13. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 14. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 15. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 16. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 17. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 18. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 19. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 20. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 21. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 22. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 23. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 24. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 25. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 26. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 27. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 28. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 29. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 30. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 31. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 32. S. Langmuir (GB), 1:48.82, 33. 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